

SEP 3 1924

The Playground

SEPTEMBER, 1924

Industry and Leisure Time James Mullenbach

Recreation and Industry Al Towers

Industrial Recreation John M. Glenn

Recreation for the Small Town and Country . J. W. Coverdale

Recreation for the Open Country John F. Smith

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The Playground

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KINSHIP

The Playground

VOL. XVIII, No. 6

SEPTEMBER, 1924

The World at Play

The National Conference on Outdoor Recreation Appoints Secretary.—The National Conference on Outdoor Recreation which met in Washington, May 22-24, at the call of President Coolidge, and which has as its purpose the correlation of numerous activities relating to outdoor recreation now being conducted by many unofficial agencies, announces the selection of L. F. Kneipp to act as its Executive Secretary. Mr. Kneipp, who entered the government service in Arizona in 1900 as a forest ranger under the Department of the Interior, has had a varied experience in forest work, finally serving as head of the Branch of Lands of the Forest Service, a position in which he has had charge of all the recreation work on the national forests.

Dr. Brumbaugh Goes to Juniata College.—Hon. Martin G. Brumbaugh, former Governor of Pennsylvania, who has given such unusual help in the state and national physical education campaigns and has spoken for the national recreation movement on so many occasions, has just accepted a call to become President of Juniata College. He will, however, continue to help the national recreation movement through addresses and otherwise in special emergencies.

Governor Brumbaugh for a number of years gave his evenings to community recreation work in Philadelphia, and there are few persons as deeply committed to the national leisure time movement as Governor Brumbaugh.

A Senatorial Birthday.—Senator Arthur Capper, of Kansas, who introduced the Fess-Capper Compulsory Physical Education Law, has celebrated his last sixteen birthdays by giving a party to which all the children of Kansas are invited. This year was no exception to the rule, and in greater numbers than ever before the children of the State poured by

thousands into Garfield Park, Topeka, for a day full of thrills.

There was free transportation to the park for all children under sixteen. Once in the park all the merry-go-rounds and other attractions were open to them. Contests in games and athletics, in whistling and singing, in playing the French harp, and impersonations of Mother Goose characters made up the program. The shut-ins were not forgotten, and about two hundred children in institutions and others who could not leave their homes were provided with ice cream and toys.

Make Motors Pay.—How to make automobiles pay for the playgrounds which would take children off the city streets and away from the dangers that beset them there is suggested by a citizen of Newark, N. J., writing to the *Newark Evening News*:

"To get more playgrounds so we can keep our children out of the way of the leading cause of their danger (the automobile), I would suggest that every organization that has the welfare of children at heart get behind a movement to give part of all money collected for automobile licenses toward providing playgrounds in first-class cities, as these are the cities where the most danger prevails. If a small part of each license fee were given cities it would give a sufficient amount without increasing taxation."

"A Way To Get Funds for Playgrounds" in *Better Times*, June 9, 1924

Artistic Appreciation of the Future Now in the Making.—The greater appreciation of art in America was a part of the appeal of Bishop William Lawrence of Massachusetts in an address before the New York City Harvard Club. He urged that architecture, furniture and decorations be made restful like the beauties of nature.

"Soon," he added, "the whole people will realize that the products of business and chem-

istry, even the fabric of home, school and church, are incomplete without the satisfaction, contentment and charm which come with an appreciation of art, or rather of true expression, even in the humblest utensil. Why should not the pitcher on your table be graceful and not ugly? Why should your children be taught to admire a rose and be compelled to look upon hideous pictures hanging upon a glaring wall paper?

"Art museums are rising in our great cities. Soon art centers will rise by the thousands throughout our land. We must prepare for this call for beauty. Teachers, leaders, curators, connoisseurs, advisors, art restorers must be in the making now; and they can be best trained in the atmosphere and amidst the libraries, associations and collections of our universities."

Team Work for Child Saving.—Would a study of a neighborhood by a team effort of school, recreation, Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, Children's Court, and other authorities, followed by such team work as would educate and enlist the real co-operation of parents and capture a gang of tough street boys for regular school attendance, constructive and happy use of their spare time, and for the habit of good citizenship, show the way to deal with the younger brothers, and all the other boys who are fast coming along in the homes of this neighborhood?

Two University Graduates—Brilliant and Precocious—Confess Atrocious Murder.—"An individual may be an intellectual prodigy and a moral moron" without feeling of fellowship for the group or for any individuals about him.

A feeling of fellowship is fundamental to right living. This in modern life is most easily developed in play—particularly in team games. To be a good sport implies fellowship.

Why Not a Play Room for Every Apartment House?—Every renting agent in Chicago who is a member of the Chicago Real Estate Board recently received a letter from Henry G. Zander, president of the realty organization, calling attention to an inclosed communication from Marie G. Merrill, Assistant Commissioner of Public Welfare, and Mary E. McDowell, Commissioner of Public Welfare. The inclosure urged that a permanent room in every

apartment house be converted into a play room with only such equipment as will make it convenient for children to bring their own toys and games. A strong, painted table, it was suggested, would serve for little girls' tea parties or boys' checker games. Many of the group floor games which the children learn in kindergarten or grade school could be played. There might also be a bulletin board with typed lists of suggestions to parents regarding games, books, story books and songs.

"Every year," says Miss McDowell, "conditions point more and more to the fact that cities are not planned for children. We seem to have expected them to drop into our community full grown. Inasmuch as they must have a place in which to live and play, we must give time and thought to it.

"Miss Merrill's plan, which this department sponsors, is one that is usable and within the reach of all the owners of apartment buildings where there are children. It is the beginning of an attempt by the department of public welfare to work out a problem. I believe that the effect of our efforts will spread not only through Chicago but to other cities."

Hop Harvest Experiment in Bulletin Form.—The experiment in providing health and recreation service for hop fields workers in Oregon, described by John C. Henderson in *THE PLAYGROUND* for March, has been written up as a bulletin of the Oregon State Board of Health in co-operation with the United States Public Health Service.

"If You Are Planning to Go to England!"—Writes Clare Soper, Secretary of The New Era, Cavistock Square, London, to whom some of the handbooks of the Playground and Recreation Association of America had been sent: "Many thanks indeed for the splendid set of books that you have sent us. We have not yet had time to read through them, but they look to be exactly what we wanted. I only wish similar organizations could be started in this country. Have you any enthusiastic members who might come over and help us?"

The Rural Struggle.—Recently there came to the Playground and Recreation Association of America, through Dr. George Vincent, of the Rockefeller Foundation, a letter from a teacher in a pioneer community in Montana,

who wrote: "I am enclosing pictures of our community hall in Garfield County, Montana. We are using the hall for a schoolhouse. Many of the boys and girls live as far as seven miles from school and come on horseback. If there is any way in which we can be helped to secure playground apparatus or a school library, it would be both appreciated and used."

Community Singing in the 50's.—In Vandemark's Folly, a story by Herbert Quick of the settlement of Iowa in the 50's, there occurs the following account of singing on the boats on the Erie Canal:

"We often had a 'sing,' as we called it, when in the evening the musical passengers got together and tuned up. Many of them carried dulcimers or accordions, fiddles, flutes and various kinds of brass horns, and in those days a great many people could sing the good old hymns in the *Carmina Sacra* and the glees and part-songs in the old *Jubilee*, with the soprano, tenor, bass and alto, and the high tenor and counter, which made better music than any gathering of people are likely to make nowadays. All they needed was a leader with a tuning-fork, and off they would start, making the great canal a pretty musical place on fine summer evenings."

Open Forums a Hundred Years Ago.—Reverend Fred Eastman, of New York, recently said:

It has been less than one hundred years since a school board in Ohio passed this resolution, addressed to some young men: "You are welcome to use the schoolhouse to debate all proper questions in. But such things as railroads and telegraphs are impossible and rank infidelity. There is nothing in the Word of God about them. If God had designed that His intelligent creatures should travel at the frightful speed of fifteen miles an hour by steam He would have foretold it by the mouth of His holy prophets. It is a device of Satan to carry the souls of the faithful down to hell."

Department of Boyology.—R. A. Hoyer, for many years a recreation worker in the local and national recreation field, has accepted a position at Notre Dame University to organize and direct the new graduate department for the training of men for the profession of boys' work. The new department is to be known as

the Department of "Boyology." The purpose is to place boys' work on a professional basis. Only men of the highest character and men with a bachelor's degree will be accepted as students. The course will be of two years' duration and will lead to a master's degree.

An Institute for Playground Leaders.—The Recreation and Community Service Department of Houston, Texas, conducted a summer playground institute covering a two-weeks' period during which classes were held every morning from 9 to 12. The subject matter of the course was as follows:

I. Recreation as a Profession, Corinne Fonde, Executive Secretary.

II. The Place of Physical Activities in the Recreation Program, Nathan L. Mallison, Playground Supervisor.

III. Community Organization, by Frances E. Fox, Community Organization Director.

IV. Community Drama, by Frances E. Fox, Community Drama Director.

V. Community Music, by W. R. Waghorne, Community Music Director.

The members of the classes were asked to fill out a registration card asking for the following information which would enable their services to be used to the best advantage:

NameAddressPhone
Interest:

Professional?

(If so, obtain application blank from office.)

Volunteer?

(If so, check service you can and are willing to give:)

Storytelling? Handcraft? Games? Referee? Club Leader? Music? Drama? Social Recreation? Automobile Service?

Days AvailableHours

Preference as to Playground.....

Promoting Recreation in Texas.—Miss Amanda Stoltzfus, Lecturer on Play and Recreation at the University of Texas, has written us of some of her activities throughout the State.

"On last Saturday," says Miss Stoltzfus, "for the first time in the history of our University we had a social hour for the students who do not dance and who care little for the movies. It was a most successful beginning. There were more than 300 play hungry young people

present. We shall have similar social programs throughout the remainder of the term. Many of these students will take home with them the games and activities they have learned and introduce them into their school communities.

"The last of this week I expect to start on a tour of visits to a series of teachers' conventions, hold community socials, and attend nine district Parent-Teacher Association meetings over the State. At each of these meetings I am to have a whole evening on the program for recreation and play.

"Most of the recreation problems referred to me pertain to high school age and grown-ups. Many mothers want their children entertained in some other way than by dancing. There is scarcely a day that some such request does not reach my desk. Next Friday night I have promised to take charge of a community play evening, when community singing, mixers and stunts will prove the best way to secure hearty laughs and win co-operation in further recreation activities. Said one of the women of one of the communities where some time ago I gave a play demonstration, 'Our folks have always been considered stiff, but they forgot all about it the afternoon you played with them. Now we want you to come again and help us play.'"

A Summer Course in Recreation.—The College of the City of New York in connection with its 1924 summer session gave a course in the Theory, Practice and Methods of Physical Training and Organized Play for the Classroom, Gymnasium and Public Playground. James V. Mulholland, Supervisor of Recreation of the Department of Parks, and Daniel M. Alperin, Supervisor of Vacation Playgrounds, were in charge of the lectures, class teaching and observation trips.

Women Students Develop.—A study of 1,600 Oberlin College women students over a period of thirty-six years reveals that a more youthful, tall and sturdy college girl has taken the place of the college girl of yesterday. An eighteen year old girl is two inches taller than the nineteen year old girl of yesterday. The modern Oberlin girl has a lung capacity of sixteen cubic inches greater than that of her predecessor. Her chest expansion is two inches greater. Girls between the period of

1886 to 1903 had a back strength of 119 pounds; those of 1909-1915 had a lifting power of 137.3 pounds, and those of 1918-1922 have backs capable of lifting 160.8 pounds; the girl of 1909 had a leg lifting power of 147.9 pounds, where the modern girl has a leg lifting power of 176 pounds.

Condolences from Playground Children.—

Among the messages received by the President and Mrs. Coolidge when their son passed away was the following:

"The teachers and children of the Portland, Maine, playgrounds desire to express their sympathy to you and Mrs. Coolidge and your son in your great sorrow. All flags on our playgrounds have been placed at half mast in loving respect to your son, Calvin Coolidge, Junior. On the day of the funeral the playground children with their teachers will gather around the flag in silent prayer that the great God will give you both fortitude to bear this sorrow.

"Sincerely,

"(Signed) GRANVILLE R. LEE,

"Supervisor and Secretary"

A Diamond Ball League in Minneapolis.—

From Miss Dorothea Nelson, Assistant Director of Recreation in Minneapolis, comes the statement that the Diamond Ball League, composed of 47 teams—27 commercial and 20 city—made up of girls and women from the ages of 18 to 55, has been an outstanding success.

Make Your Own Stilts.—Stilt races played an important part in the Community Service program of East Boston. The manual training teachers in the schools aided in the promotion of the contest by including the making of stilts in the manual training program. The making of tin can stilts also proved very popular. These are made by taking a used tin can and punching four holes in the top and sides, two in the top diagonally opposite each other, and one on each side just underneath. Through these holes wire or string is passed. The boy stands on the can, holds each one to his feet by means of the string, and then runs along.

In the list of events came first a fifty-yard wooden stilt race, a wooden stilt balancing event and a cock fight. The next two events were listed as a twenty-five-yard tin can stilt race and a twenty-five-yard tin can obstacle

race. The rules governing each event were strictly enforced. In the wooden stilt balancing contest the boys were given directions to turn to the left, then to the right, to hop on their stilts, then walk around the rim of a circle, kick, and do a variety of things, all within the limits of a six-foot circle.

Serving Other Children.—The toy furniture made by children in the Handcraft Club of the Riverside Playground, Elmira, New York, was presented to the Rotary Home for Crippled Children. The contribution of the sewing class of the playground to the Home took the form of a large number of dolls.

A City-Wide May Day Festival.—The May Day festival held under the auspices of the Board of Education, the parochial schools, the University of Cincinnati, and Community Service, was a singularly beautiful celebration. One of the significant features of the celebration was the fact that for the first time children of the Cincinnati and General Protestant Orphanages participated, as well as the children from seventeen public and seven parochial schools.

Simplicity marked the costumes of the

dancers, the girls wearing white dresses with sashes, and colored head bands. The sashes were made by the Mothers' Clubs of the public schools, while in the parochial schools they were made under the supervision of the sisters in charge.

Cincinnati's Music Festival.—In 1921 Cincinnati Community Service held a sing and music festival at Eden Park. There were seventy-five symphony orchestra players and a large mixed chorus, with Dan Beddoe as soloist. There was also community singing under the leadership of Will R. Reeves, Director Community Service. About 35,000 people attended the festival, which proved so popular an event that plans are on foot for repeating it this year.

A Flower Contest.—The feature program at the Community Service playgrounds in Elmira, New York, on July 15 was a flower storytelling contest. The girls were dressed to represent various flowers, while the boys were costumed as gardeners. The object of the contest was to teach the children about flowers and to increase interest in the nature study class held on the playground.



A CITY WIDE PLAY DAY IN CINCINNATI

A New Municipal Orchestra.—On May 20 the Sacramento Municipal Symphony Orchestra of fifty-five members gave its first concert. A nominal admission charge of 50 cents was made. The concert was enthusiastically received, and it is expected that a municipal appropriation will be made for the work.

A Water Carnival on a Huge Scale.—Swimmers, divers and boatmen competed in Detroit's Fifth Annual Water Carnival held at Belle Island on August 9th under the auspices of the Department of Parks and Boulevards and the Department of Recreation, with many co-operating groups and individuals. It was a mammoth affair with many participants and thousands of spectators.

There were sail, yacht and power boat races, swimming events of all kinds, with life saving demonstrations, fancy diving and canoe tilting.

A pageant of illuminated and decorative canoes brought the carnival to a close.

New Plans in Chicago.—From V. K. Brown, of the South Park Commissioners of Chicago, comes the following note about summer activities:

"We are opening up our new stadium and have arranged to bring Harry Barnhart to Chicago for a series of forty concerts, winding up with a song festival in the stadium. The band will be staged on the central field, which will be illuminated by our lantern parade, lanterns from our own system, and from the Board of Education playgrounds furnishing the setting. Choruses from the various parks will be brought together for the festival.

"We are also inaugurating a model sailboat regatta on a somewhat elaborate scale, organizing it on a scientific rating basis and classifying the boats on the same formula as is used in the international races. In co-operation with the Bureau of Recreation of the Board of Education, we are planning to hold a big-scale circus in the stadium at the end of the summer season. We shall have thirty-six elephants and other things in proportion."

Boats and More Boats.—A miniature boat race is one of the latest activities of the Lexington, Kentucky, playgrounds.

On July 3d model boat races brought out an enthusiastic group of adults as well as of children who entered the race. There were

four events—home-made sailboats, store model sailboats, home-made self-propelled boats, and store model self-propelled boats. The first two events for sailboats included racing yachts, square sailboats, three-masted schooners, Cape Cod cat, Bar Harbor types, and models of old-time sailing craft. The third and fourth events featured tiny motor boats propelled by steam and clockwork; small torpedo boats propelled by electricity, submarines, and all unclassified boats having novel means of propulsion.

A Little Push—and Everybody Helped.—The children's training school of a Pacific Coast city, caring for eighty-eight children, needed a playground and had available, in addition to the plot of ground, only \$500. The officials of the school got in touch with the recreation executive, who inspected the ground and suggested the type of apparatus necessary. Later he presented the needs of the institution before the Kiwanis Club, which volunteered to furnish the labor, thus leaving intact the money for the equipment. The plot of ground was below street level, but the recreation executive persuaded a contractor to donate the dirt from a nearby excavation. He secured the equipment at cost through the Board of Education and enlisted the personal interest of the Construction Department of the city to such a degree that they rolled the surface and worked for three hours with Kiwanis Club members in installing the various pieces of apparatus. The Kiwanis Club, in addition to their contribution, painted the woodwork and furnished sawdust for the pit.

Parents' Nights.—Each of the nineteen playgrounds of Johnstown, Pennsylvania, is having every week a Parents' Night, when special invitations are issued to the parents and grown-up friends of the children to come to the playground. The children entertain with folk dances, singing, games and plays, for which they themselves make the costumes. It is hoped that through this plan the adults of the city will become more familiar with the playground activities than they have ever been before.

An Experiment in Self-Government.—This summer every playground in Fitchburg, Massachusetts, has had a miniature city government, with children acting as Mayor, City

Council, Chief of Police, policemen and superintendents of water works, streets, highways, parks and health. The officials, elected by the children themselves, have been responsible with the Supervisor for enforcing the few simple rules governing the playground and have assisted in carrying on the activities.

A Remodeled Barn.—The Department of Playgrounds of Sacramento has opened a new playground in an old section of the city where there are large numbers of children. A feature of the playground is the rest house made from remodeling the old barn on the property and decorating both the interior and exterior. There are special sections for boys and girls and in the center of the house are the assembly hall and clubrooms. In front of the building tall Corinthian columns have been erected, giving the former barn a Greek theater effect. It is the plan of the Department of Playgrounds to produce amateur theatricals in front of the building, which will also be used by the students of Lincoln School for entertainments.

An Attractive Clubhouse.—A new clubhouse to be located in Cherokee Park, Louisville, Kentucky, for the Cherokee Golf Club will be built of rough stones with slate roof, Dutch colonial style. The ground floor will contain

locker rooms for men and women, with 500 lockers, showers, toilets, boiler room and shop. The main floor will have a club room 30 feet by 50 feet, with stone fireplaces and French doors opening on the veranda. There will be quarters and an office for the supervisor, a buffet, kitchen and serving room, a storeroom and a porch.

The clubhouse is to be erected under the auspices of the Cherokee Golf Club and the Board of Park Commissioners.

Modern Stadium at Ohio State.—More than 13,000 persons, most of them alumni of Ohio State University at Columbus, Ohio, have contributed within the last four years a million and a half dollars to build the beautiful stadium, which will be formally dedicated at the opening of the football season. The stadium has a seating capacity of 30,000. The beautiful towers surmounting the structure provide training rooms in addition to those in other parts. The architectural and engineering problems of building were solved by members of the engineering faculty or alumni at a reduced cost. Business men and bankers of Columbus have been notably generous in supporting the project.

Lantern Carnival Night in Lexington.—On July 18, the Lexington, Kentucky, playgrounds

What the country needs is the unifying process of a simple restatement of what is worth while in life.

The extensions and complexities of scientific and material progress have bewildered and stunned us all.

But the values and standards of conduct in the family, in communities, in the state—these must be borne aloft, no matter how confusing and measureless become the surprises of invention and the prodigies of industry. Human character and conduct—these are supreme, as ever. When the questions are asked, Who are the men of mark? Who are the coming leaders? it means that people want men at the front, at the top, who stand for, who express these values and ideals. For they must persist, regardless of whether communication is by foot messenger or radio, and of whether a few thousand or a few billion dollars constitute a fortune.

The means of reaching a large public may change from year to year, but the vital interests of mankind do not change. They have to do with happiness and character, with life and death, with conditions of living, with what in the last analysis are moral standards and values.

Regardless of the size of any one of our communities, if there are men living there with character and unselfishness enough to formulate and by their lives proclaim high standards and ideals, then that community has no right to ask despairingly, Where are the men to lead? It is true that when the question is put, those who ask are not thinking of their own or any particular town so much as they are of the country at large. But the nation can rise no higher than its source.

—Saturday Evening Post, May 17, 1924.

under the leadership of W. J. Sandford, Director of Playgrounds, held their annual lantern carnival. There were lanterns of all kinds entered, not only by children but by adults—Japanese and Chinese lanterns, old-time shoe box and ship lanterns, and many other varieties. Prizes were offered for the most beautiful hand made lantern, the most artistic lantern purchased at local stores, and the most unique lantern.

A School Building for Community Use.—This fall Mt. Clemens, Michigan, will open a completely equipped high school containing a large swimming pool, a gymnasium and running track, a small gymnasium for girls, an auditorium seating 1,600 people and having a large stage, and a community room with a fireplace at one end and a small stage at the other. The building, it is expected, will have wide use for community purposes.

Not Large, But Popular!—The Wabash, Indiana, Ice and Fuel Company has made available in its grounds a miniature swimming pool for the children of the neighborhood. The swimming pool, which is made of cement, is only 8 feet by 10 feet by 4 feet deep. The Ice Company has utilized an 8-inch stream of hot water which comes from the process of making artificial ice and has heretofore been a waste. One hundred gallons of clean, hot water are run from the building each minute. The cold water stream flows constantly, while the hot water flow is regulated according to the wishes of the swimmers. In one of the lower rooms of the company's plant a dressing room for girls has been devised and the girls are allowed to use the pool from 1:00 to 5:00 each afternoon. Only a few swimmers can occupy the pool at one time, but a vast amount of enjoyment is derived from it.

Playgrounds in Auburn.—Auburn, New York, has five playgrounds which are being conducted under the leadership of Mrs. Frederick Hosmer, Supervisor of Playgrounds. The city federation of Parent-Teacher Associations is co-operating by providing a special worker who is in charge of the club activities. A special feature of the program is the regular afternoon concert at each playground, when the children bring their favorite records from home

and play them on the Victrola. The children report playground news events for the local papers. Flag Week, Safety First Week and Good Book Week have all been observed.

The American Legion will take charge of the annual field day for the children of the playgrounds, and a Recreation Committee of twenty-three members within the Post will study the problem of evening hour recreation and build up a program of activities.

Casper, Wyoming, Recognizes Need.—At a Forum Meeting held under the auspices of the Chamber of Commerce of Casper, Wyoming, in May, a vigorous resolution was passed, recognizing the need of community organization and a central meeting place, and urging action to secure these benefits. The resolutions read in part:

"Whereas, there is in our city an ever-increasing consciousness of civic responsibility, which consciousness we recognize as one of our most valuable assets, and which we feel should be quickened into action in every possible and proper way for the good of our community; and,

"Whereas, at this time there is in the social and civic life of our city a very definite and vital need—one which has been so generally felt and frequently expressed by our citizens, the need of some civic organization or leisure-time movement; and,

"Whereas, said movement must necessarily be community-wide in its scope and purposes, thoroughly democratic in its type, and founded upon the intelligent interest and co-operation of those of every class and creed—a movement whose program of activities shall be so designed and adapted as to meet the widely diversified social, civic and recreational requirements of our entire citizenship; and

"Whereas, there is the most urgent need in our city of a Community House with an adequate auditorium, gymnasium, swimming pool, club rooms, headquarters for other civic groups, a house which, under the administration of a community service, would be maintained as a common gathering place, open to all the people of the community, and which would provide facilities and activities for mental, moral and physical growth, for fellowship and recreation, for civic service and enjoyment of the arts."

Industry and Leisure Time*

By

JAMES MULLENBACH

Chairman, Trade Board, Hart, Schaffner and Marx, Chicago, Illinois

In beginning my address I ought to say with respect to my relation to the firm of Hart, Schaffner and Marx, that I act as mediator between the company on the one hand and the Union on the other. For something over eleven years now I have been sitting on the mediator's bench between capital and labor. The people nominated me for the place and the company accepted. I think both have been sorry at times since, but they still tolerate me good-naturedly.

FREEDOM IN INDUSTRY ESSENTIAL

I have something of the feeling that one is expected to speak with authority. When we pass from art to industry, as we are doing in the program tonight, we pretty nearly exchange Beauty for the Beast. It is difficult to pass from art to the dirt and grime and sweat of modern industry, especially industry in its automatic and mechanical phase. Fortunately there is still a large part of the industry of the world that offers some opportunity for the expression of what we call our creative impulses. About forty per cent. of our people still live in rural communities and the farmer has the opportunity for the expression of his personality that has disappeared from our factory organizations. The same thing is largely true of our building trades. They still retain in large proportion the craft and the skill, despite all the mechanical devices that have been introduced for short cut production.

Whatever I may be able to say about industry, I cannot say much about leisure time, for I never had much of it. Sometimes I have felt as if I worked twenty-four hours a day and two hours overtime. I have always enjoyed my work. I have worked under conditions of freedom, and I do not understand how anyone can be happy unless he works under those conditions. What sits so hard at the heart of industry today is that men do not work in industry under terms of freedom. I am speaking about the mechanics of industry, not the organization of industry—those conditions within the shop organization which make it absolutely necessary for leisure time to be wisely used.

The leisure time of the working class in this country has been largely won by themselves, through their own organization; and those of the working class who have no leisure today are those that have not been able to organize themselves. For instance, the unorganized woman, the working woman of today who is not in the Union, works ten hours a day. It is all right for us to speak of leisure and the right use of leisure, but when a woman works ten hours a day, if she can be said to have any leisure it must be a leisure of rest rather than of activity.

MONOTONY DEADENS THE CREATIVE IMPULSE

I wish to speak about those things that make for the necessity of good use of leisure. The characteristics of all factory organization today in large scale production can be stated in these terms. First, there has come about disintegration of the craft, of the trade. That is true not only of the tailors' trade, but of the mechanics', the machinists' trade. In the ordinary automobile factory a mechanic may be anything from a philosopher to a moron, because the work does not require any skill. There is a story of a man who was looking for a job as a mechanic. When asked what he could do, he found it hard to think, but he said he had been working at an automobile plant, where he had put on nut No. 84. The woods are full of mechanics of that kind. The trades are disintegrated, the processes have become so simplified, so sectionalized, that the production of the utility instead of requiring one man, as in the old times, requires sometimes hundreds. For instance, it takes a hundred and fifty men to make an ordinary suit of clothes—that is, a coat, vest and trousers. The simplification this process has brought about has come to mean piece work in industry, because it was found to be of advantage to pay men not by time but by the piece, and thus enlist the interest of the worker in the output. Piece work is therefore practically established throughout the factory system. That means two things. It means speed, first. Self interest enlists the efforts of the worker in as large an output as possible. The production of the whole garment is not interesting to the

*Address delivered at the Recreation Congress, Springfield, Illinois, Oct. 10, 1923.

worker, nor the quality of the work in it; she is interested in the number of buttonholes she can turn out in a given time, because on that depends the fattening of her pocketbook out of which she can buy pleasure in her leisure time.

Along with speed comes monotony, and that is the second result of this system of piece work. A girl has no interest in the quality of the utility. Let me explain by an illustration. There came into my office one morning the head quality man of our organization. At one time he had been known as the best overcoat man in the city. He came in and said to me, "I wish you would look at this overcoat I have on." I looked at it and I said, "That is a fine overcoat. It is well made." "Yes," he said, "I made that coat myself and I challenge any tailor in this town to find anything out of the way with it. I am proud of it. I feel about that coat as any fellow who has written an editorial in this morning's paper." What was he talking about? He was talking about the adequate expression of this creative impulse, for personal expression, for self-realization that means the doing of things with your own hands. Do you think any of the workers out in the shop doing piece work would be interested in the total output, or how an overcoat is going to look when it is finished? Not at all. They are interested only in their particular portion of it. Then, the monotony! I know what monotony in work is. I wore down the hickory handle of a hammer once, and I afterwards cut off that handle and kept it to show to some of my social worker friends to prove to them that I once earned my living. It means speed, monotony, and other things. The interests and personal desires of the individual are inhibited for the time being—for the eight hours that are spent at their employment in the shops—and that results in mental and nervous unbalance in the individual. You get on a street car in Chicago, and by and by three or four shop girls get on, laughing, shouting, directing attention to themselves, and some of us who have been brought up to respect our Puritan inheritance wonder what has become of that self-control which was supposed to be characteristic of the American. What is happening is that these girls, who have for six or eight or ten hours been standing or sitting in one place, doing over and over the same thing, are simply recovering their mental balance, and because they are young they are doing the things that get it back faster and quicker than the rest of us do. That is all. Those of us who are older are slower in getting back. We are

glad to sit down in the car and be quiet for a while, and then after supper we begin to recover some of our normal mental poise.

ACHIEVEMENT OF PERSONALITY THE TEST

So much for the causes of this condition among the workers in the shops of this country. Wherever it exists it furnishes that spark that is so easy to set off industrial explosions that result in strikes and protests. I have given you enough of the background of the worker to have you understand this telegram sent to this congress by the president of the American Federation of Labor. It is because the Union—bad as the Union may be at times, for the Union is not prevented by any special provision of Providence from making mistakes any more than the rest of us—does do this: It seeks to restore some of the personal dignity to the worker at the bench that the machine has robbed him of. It shortens his hours of labor, it raises his wage. It insists upon proper treatment with regard to hiring and firing. All social institutions may be tested by the simple principle, whether they make for the achievement of personality or whether they do not. In the ordinary industrial organization where the trades are broken up you get a condition which makes for the depression of the personal spirit. Here is just where the folk who are interested in the rightful use of leisure time are to come in. The Unions do something towards helping out in this use of leisure time. The Amalgamated Clothing Workers have every fortnight in Chicago a great meeting, with about five or six thousand people coming together. They have the finest of orchestras. They do not play jazz; they play classical music. They have opera singers hired especially for that night. They have speakers, sometimes radical and revolutionary, but there they all gather. It is their opportunity for some expression of that thing they wanted in the time of their protest, the time of the strike.

"WE WANT BREAD AND ROSES, TOO"

Mr. Taft has been talking to us so inspiringly about beauty. I want to tell you that beauty sits at the heart of everyone. What every soul wants is a chance of adequate expression. When the strike came on in 1910 in Chicago the men and women went on parade and carried placards indicating their protests. One that was marked by genius was, "We want bread and roses, too." The workers of this country want not only bread;

(Continued on page 369)

Recreation and Industry*

BY

A. L. TOWERS

Illinois State Federation of Labor

As a boy my playgrounds were those of a big city. The city was St. Louis, Missouri, where I spent a part of my boyhood days. Our playgrounds were private yards, where we broke windows and collected our pennies to pay for them, vacant lots littered with ash heaps and tin cans, from which we were usually driven by the police, and a very few spots in the public parks. With all of these handicaps there were many devoted to outdoor games who never lost an opportunity to get into any game being played.

I have seen most of those who were keen for play grow into strong men both physically and morally. I have seen many who did not take to these games either because of no leadership or because of the very limited opportunity of that period, develop vicious habits and go to their graves before reaching middle age.

THE PRODUCTS OF "KERRY PATCH"

I, too, well remember that part of St. Louis known as "Kerry Patch." More than thirty years ago it was a settlement of the poorer Irish immigrants. It consisted of small miserable shacks, goats and tin cans, with no place for play except the streets. Almost as babies the children were driven from the street by the police. They naturally believed that the police were their enemies depriving them of all freedom. It was a very congested district. As a result of the lack of plans and place or environment for play, many of them took to petty mischief and to matching wits with the police. The police, often outwitted, became desperate and no doubt were the cause of convicting those who in some instances were innocent, thus developing a bitter hatred between the police and the growing youth. It has been said that because of that condition "Kerry Patch" developed more criminals per square acre than any other part of St. Louis. Was it because of criminal instinct or was it because of the lack of opportunity for a better and fuller expression of life in that congested district?

Now, "Kerry Patch" in St. Louis is no more.

A great change has taken place. There are two distinct reasons for the change. One is the higher wage standard, brought about through the efforts of the Trade Union movement, which permits better homes than the shacks that once made up "Kerry Patch," and the other is the opportunity for healthful play and recreation which has been developed in St. Louis, no doubt in later years through the efforts of your organization. St. Louis, like Chicago, has made progress, but there is still much to be done. There are still congested districts with little or no room for play.

MORE LEISURE FOR THE WORKING MAN

I want to refer briefly to a statement and statistics made by Ethelbert Stewart, statistician of the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor. Mr. Stewart is a citizen of Decatur, Illinois. The Rotary Club of Decatur invited him to Decatur during the time of the celebration of the Illinois State Federation of Labor. They gave a dinner in honor of their distinguished citizen. The officers of the Illinois State Federation of Labor were invited to hear him. A mass meeting was held that evening with Mr. Stewart as the speaker.

Mr. Stewart said, "With the help of more and more modern machinery on the farms fewer people will be employed in the future to produce the national food supply. The industrial centers will continue to grow and the social problems will have to be settled in the cities." Drawing a contrast between wage standards making for good citizenship and contentment, and degraded hovels and discontentment, he made this statement, "In the Chicago district brick manufacturing is solidly and thoroughly unionized. The minimum wage, or least wage paid to any worker, is 72 cents per hour. The Chicago brick are the cheapest in the country, selling for \$12.00 per thousand. The man labor hours per 1,000 brick is one hour and fifty-six minutes. In Florida brick is still made by the old hand method. The workers have no union. Their wages are 11 cents per hour. The man labor hours per 1,000 brick is from 14 to 16 hours. The highest wages paid in the coun-

*Address delivered at the Recreation Congress, Springfield, Illinois, October 10, 1923

try for making brick is a living wage, paid in Chicago, and is the cheapest labor."

I merely mention this to show that such workers need more leisure and play, but they can never get it nor can they be helped by your organization until such ancient and wasteful methods of manufacturing are abolished.

WOMEN IN INDUSTRY

There is one other matter I want to discuss with you. It is closely related to your work and our work. It is the problem of shorter hours for women workers in industry, by legislation, so that they may find some time to play with and coddle their babies. I refer to the thousands of widows and mothers who are employed in industry, in many instances as long as ten hours a day. There are, too, many young girls employed long hours in industry whose health is being weakened. This will be reflected in future generations and for it this nation will pay.

THE NATION WILL PAY FOR CHILD LABOR

We desire, and so do you, I am informed, that the children of this nation be taken out of industry and permitted to play. If we don't, the nation will pay. We tried to take them out by national legislation, but the United States Supreme Court has decreed that they must remain in industry and be deprived of play until, perhaps, the constitution is amended, a very slow process, or until public sentiment is asserted strongly enough to force the change. How unlike Lincoln is our United States Supreme Court of today! That great patriot of Illinois and of this nation said, "We are for the man and the dollar, but in case of a conflict between the two, we are for the man before the dollar." How would Lincoln, if he were with us, express himself on this evil of the child in industry today, who will reflect America tomorrow. In the United States one child out of every twelve—and for some states one child out of every four—is a child laborer.

Over 1,000,000 children from 10 to 16 years of age are working in the United States in factories, mills, canneries, agriculture, mines and other industries and occupations. Nearly 400,000 of them are between 10 and 14 years of age.

In that connection I told you that if America does not remove this blot on our glory, placed there by the United States Supreme Court, we will pay. In the effort to show why we will pay I am going to recite a story or poem by Charlotte

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Industrial Recreation*

A. H. Wyman, Director of Welfare, Carnegie Steel Company, Pittsburgh, Pa., opened the discussion on Industrial Recreation by saying that the industrial plant recreation worker has a serious problem on his hands in trying to draw into recreational activities more than a small percentage of the employees. This difficulty will persist until such time as the director himself has obtained a better understanding of the problem of gaining the confidence and full support of the plant employees. Other recreation directors present at the meeting in giving their experiences corroborated Mr. Wyman's statement and frankly faced the fact that at the present time industrial recreation work is running decidedly to athletics rather than to forms of recreation which will draw in the families of the employees.

That there is, however, a vast amount of recreation being promoted through the welfare department of the industrial plant was brought out by Mr. Livingston of the Illinois Manufacturers' Association, who stated that from 1920-22 industry had suffered and that naturally the work of the recreation department had been curtailed. In spite of this, many of the large industrial plants in and about Chicago such as the meat packers, steel industries and large mail order houses are providing recreation for many thousands of employees, Armour Company alone reaching 30,000.

The discussion brought out very clearly a number of the problems confronting welfare and recreation workers in industrial plants. It is a fact that because most employees still feel that recreation as well as welfare work is too much of the parental type, it is difficult to gain the confidence of the men and their families to the point where they will take advantage of the recreation program. Many of those taking part in the discussion felt that the average executive has become tired of paying employees to play on company time, and the feeling is fast becoming a conviction that to be successful recreation opportunities must be provided for the men and their families in their own leisure time. This gave expression to the opinion that community recreation will eventually be the solution of the problem and that employees as citizens of any community must develop a sentiment for community recreation among employers rather than have the employer offering a program of recreation to his workers.

*Discussion at Recreation Congress, Springfield, Illinois, October 11, 1923

Industrial Recreation*

By

JOHN M. GLENN

Secretary, Illinois Manufacturers' Association

Not long ago, I read an interesting book on the South Sea Islands by Frederick O'Brien. He related the sorrowful story of the fast diminishing inhabitants of the Marquesan Islands. These were former cannibal islands owned by the French. Where there were thousands of physically perfect natives before the advent of the whites, a hundred or so years ago, there are now hundreds and it will not be long before the beautifully tattooed Marquesans will be as extinct as the Dodo. One of the reasons for the astonishing mortality among these islanders, Mr. O'Brien says, is the lack of play. In the olden days the Marquesans had games, dances, weird tribal ceremonies which gave them an opportunity for display of physical and mental talent. They played with the joy of a free people. Life was not a dull, monotonous enterprise of copra collecting, as it is today. Even with the decimating tribal wars before the whites cast their shadow on the Marquesan Islands they were populous and happy.

It may be a far cry from the sad fate of the South Sea Islanders to recreation in industry but the principle undoubtedly that "all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy" finds its example in both illustrations.

All of the large manufacturing institutions in this country now make provisions for recreation for their employees. The large meat packing houses of Chicago encourage athletic sports. The National Cash Register Company of Dayton, Ohio, has bowling teams supported by the company, and a button company of Rochester, N. Y., claims that bowling is the most popular sport they have introduced. A league has been formed and there is great rivalry between the teams. Armour and Company has bowling teams and the first captain of the bowling club which consists of members of teams from probably twenty or thirty departments, was Mr. Harding, General Superintendent of the company. Some glorious battles are fought on the alleys. Bowling, by the way, is one of the best exercises in the world to keep one from becoming too thick amidships, as

doctors will tell you. Armour and Company has a well equipped gymnasium that cost several hundred thousand dollars next to its general office building in the stock yards, where well-qualified physical instructors instruct classes every half hour in calisthenics and other physical drills. Basket ball, volley ball, hand ball and other games are played and there is an excellent natatorium in the basement. Swift and Company have a big club house on the south side and both Swift and Armour have recreation centers in the country where employees spend week-ends and their vacations, if they desire, under the most pleasant surroundings.

Athletic meets are conducted by Sears, Roebuck and Company employees on the large and attractive field connected with the plant. These field days are events well worth seeing. The athletic field of Sears, Roebuck and Company has baseball grounds and twelve tennis courts with dressing rooms in addition to their field for track meets.

Not long ago I was on the West Side in Chicago during a noon hour when my attention was attracted by at least a half dozen games of baseball played by girls at the Calumet Baking Powder Company factory. Those girls were pitching curves, catching hot ones and sliding to bases with all the joyous abandon of youth. Their costumes were particularly adapted for baseball as they wear white knickerbocker suits at their work in the factory. Anyone who gives the matter any thought must appreciate that those girls went back to their work after the noon hour in a more satisfied frame of mind and in better physical condition than if they had merely sat around on benches and talked on the usual subjects which are popular among girls of that age. Physical recreation is one of the specialties of the plants of the American Telephone and Telegraph Companies and of the Western Electric Company with its 35,000 employees at Hawthorne and the physical directors of those companies will tell you that the employees are in better condition as to health and accidents are fewer as a result of development of the play spirit.

The various plants of the Illinois Steel Com-

*Address prepared for the Recreation Congress held at Springfield, Ill., October 10, 1923

pany at South Chicago, Gary and Joliet develop some fine athletes. The field events of the Labor Day Field Day on September third at Gleason field in Gary included horseshoe pitching, tugs of war, soccer, tennis and the usual track and field events. There was a miniature circus, four acts of vaudeville and carnival features, and of course music by the steel workers' band. This was the tenth field day at Gleason field. The Gary works team of light weight basket ball players were the champions of Lake County, Indiana, for 1923. The chemical library, the mechanical department and several other departments had competing teams. The Good Fellow Club Bowling League of the South Works plant of the Illinois Steel Company has been organized for the season of 1923 and 1924, with an enrollment of twenty-two teams.

A good many factories have their own bands and the pride the employees take in these musical organizations is an important factor in maintaining plant interest and efficiency. I do not know whether the time will ever come when employees will work to music but the United States Navy has a standing order, "The band will play while coaling ship." Regular concerts are given by musical clubs in some factories. The Women's Association of the Parke Davis Company gives entertainments twice a week during the noon hour with some of the best talent in Detroit being represented. At the Miller and Locke Company the employees join in occasional community singing led by the shop orchestra.

The symphony orchestra of the Commonwealth Edison Company is a wonderful organization greatly in demand for public entertainments. Marshall Field and Company of Chicago have a choral society and members who attend seventy-five per cent of the rehearsals are given an extra vacation. John Wanamaker Company and William Filene's Sons Company also have choral clubs.

A good many plants have club rooms and club houses, usually equipped with an auditorium, reading rooms, parlors and sometimes bathrooms and lodging rooms. In some of these the membership fees range from \$1.00 to \$25.00 a year, with an average of about \$3.50, although a good many of them do not have any dues at all, and in a majority of cases the privilege of belonging to the club is open to all employees. Some of the club houses are open for most of the twenty-four hours; others are open only at noon and for a short time in the evening, particularly club rooms

and club houses located near factories. One of the earliest of these club houses in Chicago, established by the Deering Works of the International Harvester Company, includes women's room, reception hall, smoking room, pool room, bowling alley, gymnasium outfit, and an assembly room seating 600 persons.

The Firestone Tire and Rubber Company at Akron, Ohio, has a big club house for its 11,000 employees with dining rooms on the first and second floor, an auditorium on the third, a bowling alley and a swimming pool, and shower baths in the basement.

A good many mining companies have club houses, one of them a recreation building built by the Homestake Mining Company of Lead, S. D., including a theatre, library, gymnasium, bowling alley, plunges, shower baths and swimming pools.

The United Shoe Machinery Company of Beverly, Massachusetts, donated to its employees a country club house located in the center of extensive athletic grounds, containing tennis courts, baseball diamond, golf course, cricket and track fields, and large grounds for gun club and trap shooting. The interior of the club house, which is an exceedingly attractive building architecturally, includes bowling alleys, billiard pool tables, and a large reading room, dance hall and a perfectly appointed theatre. The membership fee is \$2 a year.

The Wagner Electric Manufacturing Company has six basket ball teams.

All these recreation features which I have described—and I might talk of them for an hour but I have given a sufficient number of examples to indicate the modern tendency in progressive manufacturing plants to develop the play spirit—are beneficial, of course, to employees. They are a change from their work which sometimes may be monotonous and uninteresting in these days of mass production, when individual craftsmanship has been so largely succeeded by machine operations. A man or a woman who does not play is apt to have a dull outlook and to suffer physically as well as mentally.

Men and women who play have the advantage of social relationship and the educational advantages that go with community interest. They make better citizens. They have an opportunity of becoming acquainted with the managers of the factories. There is nothing like a bowling game or a baseball game to break down the barriers of caste.

My stenographer, while I was dictating this, mentioned that we should not overlook the recreation of dancing for employees. She thought the social advantages and relaxation the most important values but recognized the factor of exercise, particularly when one is inclined to be slightly overweight.

The subject of recreation in factories would not be complete without some information as to vacations for employees.

VACATIONS FOR EMPLOYEES

During the last ten years the practice of giving vacations with full pay to non-salaried employees has spread, although heretofore it has been customary to give paid vacations only to salaried employees. This development has been hastened by the growing feeling among employers that there is little justice in giving vacations to minor clerks or office workers without according similar privileges to faithful mechanics, who by their labor directly contribute to the profits of a concern.

Various methods of granting paid vacations to wage-earners are in effect. For example, a Middle Western rubber company, employing 6,000 persons, has announced that, effective this summer, it will give its non-salaried employees vacations the length of which shall be dependent upon the term of service with the company. Those who have been employed between two and three years will be given one week's vacation with pay; those employed three years or more will be given two weeks' vacation with pay. The vacation pay of day workers will be based upon the standard number of working hours per week at the average hourly rate. The pay of piece workers during vacation will be based upon the average piecework earnings for one month preceding the vacation.

In the case of a large paper manufacturing company having about 1,000 employees a somewhat different system is in effect. Those factory workers who have been continuously employed for four years are allowed four days' vacation with pay. A week's vacation with pay is allowed to all those employed between from five to ten years and two weeks' vacation with pay to all who have been employed for more than ten years.

Employers who are using the plan of paid vacations for wage-earners express themselves as well satisfied with the results and find the expense to be relatively small. As the practice of allowing paid vacations to wage-earners as a matter of

good business policy and of fairness to all employees develops, modifications of the plans mentioned will no doubt take place.

In several instances of which the National Industrial Conference Board has record the plant is shut down for a week or two, either in July or August, to make general repairs, and often to take an inventory. During this time all except a few who are specially needed are obliged to take a vacation, generally without pay.

In the case of a detached office, all employees with a record of three months' service are given a paid vacation of three days. An additional day's vacation is given for each consecutive month's service beyond three months, but, except in special cases, all paid vacations are limited to two weeks in any one year.

Illinois Steel Company generally allows employees paid on a monthly basis, who have been with the company one year or more, two weeks' vacation with pay.

The Leader Iron Works of Decatur, Ill., grants a week's vacation to office employees but outside of a few instances among shop foremen does not extend the vacation privileges to plant employees, nor is the practice customary in Decatur.

The Illinois Bell Telephone Company allows vacation to all plant employees who are on a monthly basis.

Swift and Company, Armour and Company, and all other large packing establishments, recently adopted a plan under which all plant employees who have been in service from three to five years, are given a week's vacation each year. The shorter period is for women workers. If the employees prefer to work they are given the extra week's pay.

The Standard Oil Company of New Jersey grants a week's vacation to hourly men for those in the service one year or more. The General Electric, Westinghouse and Stewart Warner have in force a plan along somewhat similar lines.

Deere & Company of Moline allow foremen, clerks and office help two weeks' vacation after one year's service, with a week's vacation for those who have been in service only six months.

The Commonwealth Edison Company grants vacations to plant employees who have been with the company for fourteen years, one day's vacation being allowed for each year's service over the fourteen year period.

The Chicago Milk Wagon Drivers' Union has an agreement with employers under which the

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A Summer Playground in an Industrial Town

By

MARGARET ALLEN HUFF

Director of Playgrounds, Natrona, Pennsylvania

Located twenty-three miles from Pittsburgh is Natrona, Pa., a manufacturing town with a population of nearly 7,000



EDDIE NEVER MISSED A SINGLE SESSION DURING THE PLAYGROUND SEASON IN NATRONA, PA.

which is largely foreign-born. As in all thickly settled communities, the yards are few in number and quite small, traffic is very much congested and the children are forced to use the streets for play.

Realizing the need for a playground, the townspeople last year began to look about for adequate space. Nothing was available except the school yard. This, though small, was well-adapted for play purposes, with large stone steps in front of the school building accommodating a goodly number for story hour, and with a seven-foot fence surrounding it. Thirty-five shade trees added greatly to the attractiveness of the playground.

How We Started

Early in the year a committee was chosen consisting of three town commissioners, three school directors and a layman. The committee was known as the Playground Committee of Harrison Township. At their first meeting the commissioners agreed to place all money collected as fines from violations of the Volstead Act, reckless driving and similar offences in a fund to be known as the Children's Playground Fund. The School Board then voted to pay one-half of all expenses incurred. This solved the financial problem at once and the sum of \$2,500 was immediately at the disposal of the Committee.

Planning the Playground

The next step was the layout of the playground and the provision of apparatus and leadership. We were fortunate in securing the services of a splendid physical director and together we set about the task of learning what nearby cities were doing and how they were conducting their work. We submitted a plan to the committee and when it had been approved we secured an industrial art teacher and two assistants. Meanwhile, the ground had been equipped and we were ready to start the work.

The Opening of the Playground

The playground was open for six weeks, the hours being from 10 to 12 and from 1:30 to 4. We tried the plan of asking the children to come in play-togs and a splendid response was secured, many of the foreign-born children coming in khaki bloomers and middies. At first we found it advisable to hold inspection each morning, sending home all the children who were dirty. This had the desired effect and soon inspection became unnecessary.

Equipment

The playground was made as attractive as possible. The shade trees with large green and oak lawn seats beneath them, the newly painted apparatus and the American flag floating overhead combined to make a pleasing appearance.

The equipment consisted of a giant stride, four slides of varying length, six seesaws, six baby, six junior and six high swings, four 9' x 12' sand boxes, an Ocean Wave and two drinking fountains. Among our properties were an American flag, eight automobiles, six express wagons, nine kiddie-bikes, six wheelbarrows and a kit consisting of two basketballs and baskets, one volley ball, one medicine ball, two playground balls, two bats, one set of quoits and one net. We also had a croquet set, six large lawn sets, a portable Victrola and folk dance records, six Miller balls, six novelty balls, twelve jumping ropes, a fifty-yard tape measure, a garden hose,

a complete set of *My Bookhouse for Children*, materials for weaving, knotting and sewing, a repair kit, four oil cans, wax for slides and similar supplies.

Between the trees and the iron fence was a 5' space extending around three sides of the playground. We roped this off, using the concrete walk which ran around the schoolhouse as the return route. This made an excellent auto track and gave the children a safe place to "speed."

The Program

We divided our children into four groups:

- Group I—Children under six years
- Group II—Children from six to eight years
- Group III—Girls eight years and over
- Group IV—Boys eight years and over

The following program was conducted:

10:00—10:15 Assembly

1. Flag Salute
2. Patriotic Song
3. Notices and group assignments

10:15—11:00

- Group I—Singing, rhythmic and dramatic games
- Group II—Sand boxes, automobiles, kiddie bikes
- Group III—Sewing and weaving
- Group IV—Apparatus

11:00—11:45

- Group I—Track vehicles
- Group II—Slides, quoits, apparatus
- Group III—Apparatus
- Group IV—Athletics
- 1. Volley ball 2. Playground ball 3. Dodge ball 4. Dodge bat ball 5. Croquet

11:45—12:00

- Group singing
- Dismissal

1:30—2:30

- Group I—Storytelling
- Group II—Miscellaneous activities
- Group III—Folk dances and games
- Group IV—Apparatus

2:30—3:15

- Group I—Miscellaneous activities
- Group II—Supervised games
- Group III—Storytelling and handwork
- Group IV—National Athletic Badge Tests

3:15—4:00

- Group I—Sand boxes, slides, swings
- Group II—Storytelling
- Group III—Apparatus
- Group IV—1. Ball games and relays
2. Water battles

In addition to the regular program, we had such special events as water battles—using our garden hose—hikes, camp fire suppers and swimming parties in the Allegheny River.



LINING UP FOR THE AUTOMOBILE RACE ON THE PLAYGROUND AT NATRONA, PA.

During the six weeks' program we did not have a single accident, not one piece of apparatus was injured and no property was stolen. Our average daily attendance was 440. On one afternoon we reached a high point attendance of 600.

Our Twilight Exhibit—On the evening of August 16 we gave a twilight exhibit in which 500 children participated. More than a thousand spectators assembled for the program. The events were singing and rhythmic games, folk and athletic dancing, rope jumping and ball bouncing specialties and relays. The delight of the children and their parents and friends greatly repaid the leaders for their summer's effort.

This summer we are planning for greater activities and every effort will be put forth to make the Natrona playground an ideal center.

The Leisure Time of Workers

The proceedings of the Conference on Working Men's Leisure held in connection with the League of Nations in Geneva during June, 1924, which are published in the June issue of the *National Labor Review* tell a fascinating story of what is being done in a number of foreign countries and in the United States for the spare time of the working man.

The first address presented was devoted to the influence of housing conditions on the use of leisure and was given by Mr. Raymond Unwin, Past President of the Town Planning Institute. Mr. Unwin advocated the garden-city plan which would eliminate the congestion of city districts, would provide land in connection with every home for a garden and sufficient open space in the neighborhood of a considerable group of homes for games and open air recreation and would conserve leisure by making it unnecessary for the worker to spend time and energy in reaching his work.

Mr. Unwin also made a strong plea for the introduction of handcraft as a part of the leisure time program. "It is difficult," he said, "to see any other channel through which mankind is to recover an appreciation of the true values in life and a recognition of the essential pleasure of useful work which is necessary to restore the balance of ideals which modern industrial civilization has upset. . . . If, in addition to their industrial work, a considerable proportion of mankind were able to take up some handcraft employment in their leisure hours, there would be a new realization of many things which have been lost sight of. The character and conditions of pleasurable work will be recognized as well as the enthralling interest of exercising even in a simple degree the creative faculties and of expressing the individual fancies and love of beauty in material form." Mr. Unwin also pointed out that it is not enough to secure leisure. "There must also be secured," he said, "those conditions of life which will afford reasonable opportunities for making good use of the leisure and there must also be arranged adequate training in the various branches of handcraft and of the simpler, scientific and artistic occupations, the practice of which may constitute the useful and pleasurable employment of leisure. In this way leisure may once more become one of the main schools of life."

The Leisure of the Young Worker

In a paper entitled *The Leisure of the Young Worker* recognition was given to a report of the World's Committee of the Y. M. C. A. of the work of that organization in developing a program of all-round activities for the working man. Mention was made, as typical examples, of the program of the Y. M. C. A. College for Working Boys in Scotland, with its games and recreation evenings; of the dramatic and musical entertainments, the dances and educational activities conducted in Y. M. C. A. buildings in Poland and Czecho-Slovakia; of the centers in Constantinople with their clubrooms, pool and billiard rooms and their educational and cultural programs; and of the educational work in the United States.

For those who are not fully familiar with leisure time developments in some of the European countries, the account of what is being done in Sweden, Belgium and Czecho-Slovakia for the leisure time of the working man will come as a thrilling story.

In Sweden

In Sweden we learn that the eight-hour act passed in 1920 has added another motive to the many which during at least forty years have made the social and cultural improvement of manual workers not only the main object of organized labor but also a generally accepted and ever-growing obligation on the part of the state and the community. Since 1894 the Riksdag has allocated considerable sums to sport and shooting clubs—610,000 kroner in the fiscal year 1923-1924. During the past few years the state has made loans of about 500,000 kroner for the organization of sports grounds in various districts, in addition to which fifty-three grounds have been opened or extended as emergency works for the unemployed at a total cost of 1,600,000 kroner. The municipalities have also devoted considerable sums to similar ends. The municipality of Stockholm, for instance, allocated over 100,000 kroner for sports in 1924.

It has been difficult to determine what effect increased leisure has had in Sweden. A study of the subject in 1922 showed a wide difference of opinion. Some pointed out that increased leisure was largely spent at expensive and demoralizing amusement, while others drew attention to the increased interest in studies, sport and home life

which followed the reduction of hours of work. It is believed by a number of organizations that the eight-hour day has helped the development of sports.

The modern sport movement, originally confined to young people of the well-to-do classes, has of late years spread considerably among young workers. The most popular summer sport is football; in winter skiing is the favorite leisure time activity. In many places, for instance in Stockholm, the workers' interest in sailing and motoring is very great, and they often succeed in cutting the rather heavy costs involved by constructing their sailing and motor boats in their spare time. Shooting is still very widespread and swimming is general in a country where water is so easy of access. In various places women workers have begun to use their holidays for walking expeditions, and women's gymnastic clubs and rambling societies have been formed in certain factories. Many of the chief sports societies now have special branches for women members.

The active participation of workers in education and the circle study movement seem also to have increased since the eight-hour law came into being. Increased leisure has also resulted in more home building and home gardening and the greater enjoyment of home life.

The Workers' Leisure Committees in Belgium

Belgium has taken significant action through the organization of Workers' Leisure Committees to provide for the increased spare time brought about by the eight-hour day. Shortly after the first discussion in the House of Representatives on the eight-hour day law, the Standing Committee of the Provincial Council of Hainault in April, 1919, appointed a committee "to consider immediately what the worker will do with his eight hours' spare time, and to discover wholesome forms of recreation for him and the means of providing them." The example of Hainault was followed by the Province of Brabant, where a committee on workers' leisure was organized in December, 1919, and by the Province of Liege, where a special leisure committee was established.

The Liege Committee—The program of the Liege Committee included cinematograph entertainment three days a week, dances on public holidays, game rooms and reading rooms, lectures and a library. The Liege Committee has devoted much of its energy to decentralized work carried out through twenty-five local committees.

Other phases of the Committee's work have been the organization of a public library and the encouragement by grants, prizes and competitions of the establishment of classes in dramatic arts, the festivals of the Provincial Federation of Choral Societies, poultry-keeping, gardening and domestic training.

The Brabant Committee

The Brabant Committee on Workers' Leisure lays special stress on family life as the most desirable use of spare time from the point of view of the community. "Family life should be fostered for the benefit of adults of all ages. The worker ought to spend by far the greater part of his spare time in his home, for it is impossible to offer him outside recreation every day, and he should find wholesome recreation in his own home." With this in view the Brabant Committee organizes exhibitions, lectures and classes covering subjects of all kinds such as house furnishing, reproductions of good pictures for the home, housekeeping, market gardening, horticulture and poultry-keeping.

As in Liege, the Provincial Committee works through local leisure committees, which must include representatives of employers and workers in equal numbers. On presenting their financial estimates and programs, the local committees receive annual grants from the Province out of a credit of 10,000 francs.

A sum of 10,000 francs is allotted in the provincial budget for the provision of educational advisers. When requested the Provincial Committee appoints one of its members or a special delegate to act as educational adviser to individuals or associations which wish to provide facilities for the use of the workers in their spare time.

For the installation and furnishing of workers' leisure institutes a sum of 30,000 francs is allotted. A further credit of 5,000 francs is set aside for the allocation of grants to communes for the installation or erection of reading rooms, a section of such rooms or a separate room to be reserved for children. For the securing of a collection of educational moving pictures a sum of 10,000 francs is allotted, the Brabant Committee believing the moving picture to be a powerful aid to education and recreation which should not be neglected.

For the organization of popular classes in elocution and music a sum of 20,000 francs is set aside for distribution to communes and dramatic or musical societies who can show that in a period

of six months they provided at least twelve free classes in a public or private building.

Other appropriations are made for educational work, lectures and for the performance of folk songs, the Committee believing that music of this kind, which is the legacy of the past, is more readily learned by the people than any other. With folk songs is grouped more modern music of a simple character with attractive airs and vivid, forceful words. It is considered that both the songs of the past and the simpler songs by modern composers should be within the reach of all.

A further credit of 5,000 francs is allotted for grants to institutes which organize visits by the workers to exhibitions and museums. A special credit in the budget is set aside for financial assistance to associations which provide physical training for the workers through gymnastics, athletics or games. A provincial grant may be given toward the cost of apparatus and equipment, prizes, certificates and handbooks; the hire of grounds, private rooms, boats, equipment and entrance fees to swimming baths.

The Brabant Committee is distinguished by the fact that it was the first to adopt a resolution in favor of a national workers' leisure organization. The idea was put forward in the House of Representatives in February of 1922 by a member of the House who introduced a bill for the establishment of a national workers' leisure organization, the object of which would be to encourage and multiply all efforts and organizations for assisting the workers to the best use of their leisure time.

The Hainault Committee—The Workers' Leisure Committee of the Province of Hainault, which has been operating for four years, is made up of not less than 112 volunteer members, including employers, trade union secretaries, ministers of religion, teachers, doctors, lawyers, agriculturists, deputies and Senators, librarians and representatives of the Workers' Education Committee. The variety of interests and of expert knowledge represented on the Committee have made it possible to set up seven sub-committees, each of which is in charge of one division of the work as follows: housing, gardens and allotments, small stock-raising and intellectual and moral training.

In October, 1920, the Provincial Council voted a sum of 1,000,000 francs for the work of the Workers' Leisure Committee. The vote was unanimous, the members of the Council being convinced that no matter how great the effort re-

quired it must be carried through since, to quote the words of Paul Pasteur, "the future of our race, our country, and even, one may say, of humanity is at stake."

Housing has been one of the chief interests of this Committee. The Belgium Workers' Leisure Committees have conceived of their function, in relation to the housing problem, to be that of beautifying the workers' homes, and the object of the Hainault Committee is to provide the workers' homes with everything which would contribute to comfort and good taste. In more than two years the Committee has done excellent work for the improvement of furniture for working-class homes by organizing competitions and exhibitions and granting prizes. The Committee has bought a large number of plates from the best Belgian engravers and has made prints from these which it sells at cost price to workers. It also sells color prints, illustrated books, china and pottery, and has set up a picture framing shop where short courses in framing are given. Art exhibitions and the provincial journal on art and decoration also do their part in raising the level of culture among the workers.

Much has been done to promote the formation of workers' gardens and allotments through financial assistance and advice and to encourage the cultivation of trees and flowers around the home.

The plans of the Committee include educational gymnastics for children and adults, games and sports, the establishment of play fields and athletic grounds, the training of instructors and propaganda in favor of physical culture. In putting the plans into effect programs for courses in physical training were drawn up, athletic grounds were laid out and training courses were started. In addition, the Committee has given financial support to the establishment of play fields and athletic grounds by various communes.

Musical and dramatic art have been developed to a marked degree. Musical festivals, the revival of folk songs, competitions for good songs, classes in theatrical production and dramatic festivals, with prizes to stimulate the writing of plays, are features of the program. Other activities include the organization of libraries, discussion work, excursions and workers' institutes.

The leisure committees in Belgium, the report points out, make no effort to force a program on the workers and his freedom to use his spare time as he chooses remains untouched. "Initiative, encouragement and guidance to the workers in the use of their spare time are essential, but

only when they reach the full development of all their faculties and of their personality will they find the real use and the real meaning of leisure."

The Use of Spare Time in Czecho-Slovakia

The result of the passage of the eight-hour act of December, 1919, in Czecho-Slovakia has meant an intensive development of the work of existing agencies and there are many cooperative societies providing channels for the use of leisure.

The working people in Czecho-Slovakia take a keen interest in physical exercise, and it is estimated that the number of workers or members of their families belonging to workers' gymnastic societies is 500,000. All these societies provide their members with plenty of facilities for using their spare time in sports, gymnastics and outdoor games. In addition, there are the well-known sokol gymnastic societies and workers' gymnastic societies, the object of which is the physical and manual education of the working-classes. In 1905 they formed the Union of Workers' Gymnastic Societies which in 1922 comprised 850 societies with a membership of 93,000. Four hundred public demonstrations were organized, 1,400 walks and 1,900 excursions. The societies maintained schools and courses for training instructors and Boy Scout leaders.

In addition to these societies aiming at physical education in general, the Czecho-Slovak workers have also formed organizations for special purposes. Thus cycling clubs have been formed and in 1910 a workers' travel association affiliated to the Labor Academy came into being. The purpose of this is to make the workers acquainted with the beauties of nature, improving their knowledge of natural history, and enable them to visit foreign countries. Holiday camps exist for the children of workers and there are football associations, the Federation of Boy Scouts and similar organizations.

The Union of Workers' Gymnastic Societies in 1922 comprised 96 musical clubs, 124 choral societies and 484 dramatic societies, 283 of which owned their own stage and properties. Visits to museums were organized under the guidance of talented persons and many local libraries were established.

A number of organizations are devoted exclusively to workers' education. The most important is the Labor Academy, which has sub-

sidized a school for officials and organizers, started traveling libraries and given courses of various kinds. In addition, it has organized holiday courses, country holiday camps, artistic evenings and concerts. A number of other groups are conducting workers' education centers and giving theoretical and practical courses. The Association of Young Country Workers has done much to organize facilities for the use of the spare time of agricultural workers. It is particularly interested in music and drama. One section formed in 1922 comprises not less than 2,135 such clubs which gave 6,567 plays in the course of the year.

In February, 1919, the National Assembly passed an act for the organization of free popular courses in civic education. In a central town of each district committees must be set up to organize lectures and courses in civic education in all the communes of the district, which must supply the buildings, other expenditures being met partly by the state and partly by the district and communal authorities. An additional act made it compulsory for every commune of over 400 inhabitants in which there was an elementary school to provide a library. A considerable part of the funds made available through the law providing that ten per cent. of the net profits of mining undertakings must be deducted for the benefit of the workers and devoted to schemes of general interest to them, has been expended on workers' institutes for facilitating rational use of spare time, such as public halls for lectures, entertainments, games and libraries.

City Workers' Spare Time in the United States

This report showed how the movement for workers' leisure in the United States was influenced by special war-time activities and by the coming of prohibition; how the need for Americanization, the assimilation of the aliens, has stimulated the leisure time movement; how the tendency in this country has been to develop community recreation rather than welfare activities in the factories and how the general public provision for recreation through municipal funds has gone far to meet the needs of the working man. The social clubs, fraternal orders and other small groups providing for the leisure of the working man were discussed as well as the part played by community agencies. The workers' education movement and work of the labor colleges were also discussed.

Spare Time in the Country

A discussion of this subject stressed the English experiment in organization which has much to offer America and other countries in their rural planning.

The unit of organization in England as in many foreign countries is the village, and there are few English villages which cannot show evidence of past endeavors for social life. In recent years, however, several factors have contributed to making more articulate the workers' desire that they themselves shall take the leading part in a quickened movement toward better living in the country. The organization of agricultural workers is recognized as one of the factors which have definitely determined their attitude.

It is no new thing that there should be village organizations responsible for providing the population with leisure time opportunities. Outdoor games have always made a strong appeal to the English agricultural worker. There have long been cricket and football clubs, village reading and club rooms used for recreation, the Bell Ringers' Association, local branches of the Friendly Society and the Mothers' Union. It was well within the last decade, however, before there was any organized study of the provision for rural recreation and social life. In 1922 a Standing Council on Rural Development was established to link up public authorities and voluntary groups such as the National Federation of Women's Institutes designed to train in home crafts and cooperative activities, and village clubs established as centers for all social, physical and mental recreation. These clubs, conducted on self-supporting lines with the control vested in a committee elected by the members, are affiliated in a Village Clubs Association which acts as an advisory body, supplying local committees with plans for the conversion of army huts into village homes and furnishing information of all kinds. There are now 529 affiliated clubs.

On the educational side the Workers' Educational Association and the Adult School Movement are providing classes, lectures and study clubs.

In the last five or six years there has been a remarkable response throughout the country districts to the efforts of two societies which are doing valuable work in the education of the people through drama—the British Drama League with 150 affiliated village societies, and the Village Drama Society, which give opportunity for village people to participate in the drama. Both

these organizations have "costume cupboards" and a library of plays, which can be loaned to groups. The Drama Society sends coaches to villages requiring help and a minimum fee of 10s per play produced is charged for a trainer's services in addition to travelling expenses and hospitality when necessary. Dramatic competitions and festivals are a part of the plan, and have played a real part in country life for many years. In 1919 the British Federation of Musical Competition Festivals was incorporated to provide the necessary organization and administration for the growing number of festivals. In Great Britain alone more than 180 of these are held annually. The formation of choral societies in villages, clubs and factories is a direct result of the festival movement. Hundreds of such choirs owe their existence to the stimulus given by the federation.

In Wales the people find most of their relaxation in musical activities. Every village means to compete at the Eisteddfod, but it is the love of music inborn in every Welshman which keeps alive his sense of song, and whether in town or country no organized body can exist without its choir, and no social meeting can take place without music.

The English Folk Dance Society has thirty-seven branches in England. Most of these are organized on a county basis and make their powerful appeal to the young people in the rural areas. Grants are sometimes made to assist villages in meeting the fee and travelling expenses of instructors. County competitions are organized on the lines of the musical festival and often the two societies combine for the purpose.

The local associations have found that better results are secured for richer country life when a group of villages agree that their representatives shall meet, consult and act together and a wider form of organization is effected. Hence, rural community councils or committees have come into being in at least eleven counties. No two are formed on exactly the same lines though all of them give a large share of their attention to the encouragement of rural recreation. Travelling organizers of social and recreational activities are appointed for county areas or for two or more counties combined. Salaries and expenses are offered to men and women who have the capacity and special qualifications for carrying out this work.

The Rural Community Council, the report points out, has only made a beginning and there

remain thousands of villages where clubs and institutes, educational and recreative agencies of all kinds cannot get a footing because there exists no meeting place for their activities other than the public house. The great and crying need is for a community hall where the village life may center.

It is, above all, the creation and cultivation of the community spirit which is the keynote of the rural scheme outlined and so far as it has attained its end it is on the way to prove that coordination is the only lasting solution of the rural problem. Success in isolated villages depends too much on the human factor, and when local leadership fails the whole structure which enthusiasm and devotion have set up is bound to go to pieces. But when public authorities work in conjunction with voluntary committees there seems good ground for hope that the movement will survive and expand.

An Industrial-Play Program

Neodosha, Kansas, according to the June-July number of the *Kansas Teacher*, has conducted a novel industrial-play program for boys during the summer months.

The organization of the program was started about six weeks before the closing of school, when the parents of pupils from the fifth to ninth grades who wished to take part were asked to fill out enrollment cards. They were requested to state what opportunities for work they could offer the boy along the line of home gardening and other tasks and whether they wished the Board of Education, which was conducting the program, to find something for the boy. After the enrollment had been completed the director of the industrial-play program visited the school rooms and aroused the interest of the boys in the program. With the opening of the program on the day after the close of school, the boys were divided into two groups—one of older and larger boys, the other made up of smaller and less mature boys. These groups were then divided into

teams of ten boys each, each team choosing its own leader. Every week the leader was given the work report blanks for the members of his team and he in turn checked them out, one to each boy, who took the report home to his parent to fill out. The report included the time spent on any tasks or responsibility placed upon the boy by parents or school authorities such as chores, gardening, music practice or other duties. The boys took keen interest in the work and their reports.

In the play program baseball was the primary activity. A tennis tournament proved another popular activity. Hikes, picnics and playground activities completed the program.

How the Industrial League Started in Pontiac, Michigan

When the Director of Recreation at Pontiac learned that two teams from a local foundry were interested in securing the use of the Armory to play off a game of indoor baseball but could not afford to pay the \$20 charge asked, he took steps to see what might be done to help. He found a good many men interested in the game with no place to play except the Armory and with no funds available to hire it. After conference of the Armory authorities it was found possible to reduce the charge to \$2 an evening for two evenings a week. A league of eight industrial teams was organized and each team made a deposit of \$10 to cover any deficit which might arise and to provide for penalties. One unique feature of the league was a team composed altogether of Filipinos, largely workmen but with one or two professional men. They had learned the game in the schools of the Island, had quickly picked up indoor baseball and were able to make the game interesting for any of their opponents.

Any real work of art, however individual and racial in root and fibre, is impersonal and universal in its appeal. Art is one of the great natural links—perhaps the only great natural link—between the various breeds of men, and to scotch its gentling influence in time of war is to confess ourselves still apes and tigers. Only writers can spread this creed, only writers can keep the door open for art during national feuds; and it is their plain duty to do this service to mankind.

—From *International Thought: The Key to the Future* by John Galsworthy in *The Living Age*, December 1, 1923.

The Utilization of Leisure in Finland*

Profitable utilization of leisure in Finland has been facilitated by the efforts of the workers themselves, the employers, the state and the municipalities. The eight-hour day was introduced under the act of October, 1917. An act prohibiting the manufacture, sale, storage and importation of liquors containing more than two per cent. of alcohol, enforced June, 1919, has helped to prevent workers from using their leisure to their own detriment.

The reduction of working hours has brought about increased trade union and cooperative activities. The unions deal not only with the improvement of labor conditions, but with education and recreation. They organize lectures, classes, debating circles, social evenings, and give financial support to libraries. For the better carrying out of their program, they have built great "people's houses" in the towns, industrial centers and municipalities. Here general meetings and evening gatherings are held and libraries are installed. The Central Union of Consumers' Cooperative Societies organizes annual courses for the staff of cooperative societies and publishes newspapers for its workers.

The regular yearly increase in sales of books, newspapers and periodicals shows the great desire of working folk for education. At present there are more than 3,000 public libraries in Finland. Workers' institutes, started by philanthropists and later taken over by the municipalities, give popular lectures and elementary classes in civic education. They also organize classes for home workers, debates, social evenings, popular fetes and excursions. The state bears about

half the expenses of these institutes.

During the last theatrical season the state subsidized seventeen workers' theatres. In the towns and large provincial centers of industry, choirs, brass bands and dramatic societies, recruited largely from working people, have been formed. Every year these institutions organize choral and music festivals in various parts of the country.

The Association of Finnish Young People's Societies has considerable influence. Societies have been established in the industrial centers and even in the rural districts. For the most part, they have their own buildings, where they hold their meetings, which consist generally of lectures followed by debates, singing, games and dances.

The workers' taste for outdoor sport has developed mainly since the war, but is not connected, say they, with the reduction of hours of work. Municipalities have laid out sports grounds, swimming baths, skating rinks and ski runs, and have also made grants in aid of national and international sport competitions. Many towns run workers' and school gardens. In the large towns there are special sports committees, which see to the upkeep of the town sports grounds and swimming baths, allot them to the various sports societies, and propose measures to encourage open-air games. The budget of the town of Helsingfors for 1921 contained a credit of 80,000 marks for winter sports.

A Workers' Athletic Association, enrolling both men and women, had according to its latest report 28,860 members. Many manufacturers have encouraged sports by allowing their workers the free use of gymnastic halls, by appointing and paying physical culture instructors and by organizing competitions. Some trade unions have appointed technical advisors whose work is to supervise athletic societies and to encourage a taste for open-air play.

*From the *International Labour Review*, April, 1924

COUGHT NOT SPORT TO DEVELOP MAGNANIMITY?

"The most confirmed optimist cannot blind his eyes to the fact that the magnanimity which gave a certain grandeur to the operations of the war—the cheerful sacrifices, the heroism, the desire to cooperate, to bury differences, to forget past wrongs, the willingness to work, to give and to do things in a fine, large way—all this is gone. The nations of the world, exalted above themselves, expanded beyond themselves, have shriveled to the size of small bargainers interested only in themselves.

How are we going to change all this? There is only one way, that is by magnanimity, and that means more than breadth, more than cold justice, more than generosity. It means forgetting wrongs, forgiving injuries."

—Dr. Charles Alexander Richmond,
President of Union College, in *The New York Times*, June 8, 1924.

The Utilization of Leisure in Austria*

The effects of Austria's adoption of the eight-hour day in December, 1918, might have been more extended had it not been for the housing shortage and food difficulties following the war. Many families have had to occupy much of their free time in fetching food from the country and collecting fuel. The need for this has now practically ceased, however. The economic situation has also made it impossible for the Austrian worker to spend much money on leisure time activities.

The reduction of working hours has for the first time enabled the workers to take an active share in trade unionism, politics and cooperative movements. Educational activities have gained considerably wider support since the introduction of the eight-hour day, and play a large part in the disposal of the workers' leisure.

The real predecessors of all the political and trade union organizations were educational organizations run by the workers themselves. The Labor Party's Central Educational Institute has monopolized the control of the majority of educational institutions for workers, through which all its resources are placed at the disposal of the trade unions and other organizations which include education in their programs. The Institute organizes evening schools, lantern and other lectures and classes in public speaking and library work. An insistence on independence has characterized the movement for workers' education in Austria. The funds of the different institutions for workers' education are mainly provided by the trade unions.

For nearly thirty years the people's college movement has played an important part in providing popular education, more especially for the workers. University extension lectures are given in the evening. The Labor Party carries on a large and efficient Art Centre which arranges theatrical performances, opera and concerts for thousands.

Mountain climbing is widely practised. In Austria was born the organization of worker tourists known as "The Friends of Nature," which has now spread all over the world. Local branches arrange week-end excursions, give lectures and maintain libraries on mountaineering.

"The Friends of Nature" have 154 shelters and holiday homes in Austria.

The popularity of football has increased enormously. Crowds, mainly of workers, attend games in Vienna. Three hundred workers' football clubs have formed a league.

Gardening on allotments has been instituted to relieve the food shortage and provides a leisure activity for about 800,000. This often fills the same place in the older workers' leisure as sport does for the younger.

Health Values*

By

CHARLES M. DEFORD

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City*

When we talk of "health habit formation" do we stress too much *health for health's sake*? The formation of good health habits is a valuable thing to accomplish, yet too much emphasis should not be put on the physical side. Dr. Jesse Williams reminds us in his article *Prevailing Fallacies in Health Education* that health is not merely physical; it is also mental and social.

The Modern Health Crusade, that practice system of teaching health habits to children initiated by the National Tuberculosis Association, and carried on through its affiliated associations throughout the country, takes cognizance of this fact. Not only are the *physical* health habits stressed under the Crusade regime, but also such "chores" as, "I tried to avoid accidents to others and myself. I looked both ways when crossing the street" find their place in the list of daily duties. For the older children there are these daily chores: "I tried to be cheerful, straightforward and clean minded; to do one thing at a time and the most important thing first." "I was careful to do nothing to hurt the health of anyone else. I played fair in every way and I did willingly at least one kind act for another person."

*From February issue of *Nation's Health*

The great task is to increase the number of people "incessantly learning for themselves." This play does.

*From the *International Labour Review*, February, 1914

Practical Programs for Our Prospective Citizens

"Recreation is basic to the integration of foreign-born citizens with American life, and nothing is of more importance in the citizenship program."

In developing this thought, Mrs. Eva W. White of Elizabeth Peabody House, Boston, who spoke at the Connecticut State Conference of Social Work, held at Bridgeport, May 5-7, pointed out some of the essentials in work with foreign-born.

Any neighborhood worker who attempts to bring the foreign-born into neighborhood life must be steeped in the background of the foreign-born people whom he is serving. He must know the political and social background of the country from which the foreign-born come. This gives him a reality of approach which will, more than any other, break down shyness.

There is danger in trying too quickly to draw the foreign-born into the program on the basis of the contribution which they have to make and the gifts they bring from an older civilization. It is far better first to show them the meaning of American hospitality and to give them a reception to America. In Boston the plan was worked out of having the period from May 1st to July 1st the period of welcome. Lists of newly arrived immigrants were secured and all who had taken up their residence in the neighborhood were visited personally. Information was left with each regarding public schools, parks, playgrounds and the other opportunities open to them. This information was issued in the form of a small circular in the native language of the individual to whom it was given, and the significance of the facilities and opportunities was pointed out. In connection with the Fourth of July celebration, a reception was given the foreign-born in which they met the American officials of their communities. It was found exceedingly valuable for the new citizens to meet in this way the native born who represent American institutions.

Another principle of basic importance in the program of work with foreign-born is that the approach to the problem of assimilation and citizenship should be through the adult rather than the child. It is harder to do this, but in view of the fact that the problem of the adult is the greater problem, it is the fundamental method of approach. Children easily learn American cus-

toms and often this very fact threatens family life. The recreation program can do more than anything else to bridge the chasm and bring children and adults together.

Again neighborhood workers must guard against repressing the foreign-born by insistence on an American code. It is vital to keep something of the informality which the European has and to provide a familiar environment to which he will respond. A color scheme involving the colors of his native country will make a tremendous appeal to the foreign-born. Temperamental peculiarities and differences should be kept alive.

Every race responds to music but some respond to a greater degree and the gifts along musical lines are differently expressed. The Spanish and Italian do not naturally have male choruses. The Italian is naturally operatic. It should be the function of the recreation program to keep singing alive by developing it along the line followed by the particular race in question.

After about six weeks devoted to home visiting, to receptions and to emphasis on American features, the point is reached where the contribution of the foreign-born should be made and the time comes when it is important for them to begin to do things. Music, drama and handcraft are the three major approaches and the main channels through which the contributions of the foreign-born will find expression. The whole challenge to our program is the interweaving of these contributions through the entire leisure time program.

Folk plays are one important channel. A few years ago a young Russian wrote an admirable play telling of his own experiences in escaping from prison, which was presented at the Elizabeth Peabody House. This created much interest. The production of *Anna Karenina* at the same theatre was a neighborhood project. Over three months were spent in preparing for the presentation. The neighborhood folk attended the rehearsals and gave their suggestions. They provided the furniture to be used on the stage and advised in matters of costuming.

It is highly desirable to put on plays in the language of the people who are giving them and who compose the audience. It is a mistake to say the foreign-born citizen must speak only English. He must, of course, learn English but it is important for him to have in his leisure time interests the freedom which his own language offers.

In our large mass performances there is great opportunity for building together all the talents

of the foreign-born. Holiday celebrations bring people together, and pageants developed along the line of American history are splendid citizenship media. Painting, drawing and sculpture provide exceedingly valuable channels for citizenship building. Philadelphia has a graphic sketch club where all nationalities mingle in sculpture and art classes. The founder of the club has bought an old church, which he has turned into a sanctuary for art, and here his own priceless art collection is housed for the enjoyment of all the people, who may go in freely.

There must be in the field of physical activities the same participation which the art field makes possible. Adult field days and indoor game evenings and celebrations are important. School buildings opened as social centers are wonderful rallying points for the foreign-born who come to this country believing the school to be the high point in American life.

Early in the program the discussion club should be introduced so that the foreign-born may ask questions about America and in this way there may be built up a knowledge of America.

It is exceedingly important for the neighborhood worker to make the foreign-born mother realize from the first that she cannot leave her child to us. She must follow him through all his experiences. For this reason there should be neighborhood groups of mothers back of the playground and these groups must be brought into the recreation program in a way which will realize the American ideal of participation for all.

Dudley Allen Sargent

One of the great pioneers in physical education, Dr. Dudley Allen Sargent, died at Peterboro, New Hampshire, July 21. For forty years director of Hemenway Gymnasium at Harvard, inventor of modern gymnasium apparatus, head of a great training school for teachers of physical education, President of the National Association for the Promotion of Physical Training from 1890 to 1895, author, and "apostle of exercise for everybody," Dr. Sargent's contribution in his chosen field has been of inestimable value. Hundreds of workers in camp, college and playground gained training and inspiration from his leadership. "Throughout his career he served no end ulterior to his avowed one—health, fresh air, well-being for all."

A Young City in Florida Establishes a Record

By

ELIZABETH D. QUAINANCE

Twelve years ago the flourishing little city of Lake Wales, Florida, did not exist, even in the minds of its founders. In 1912 the Atlantic Coast Line ran a branch line through the turpentine camp, where the city now stands, in order to reach some of the older towns down the "ridge" and bring out turpentine and lumber. Immediately men of vision began to dream dreams of a city of homes dotted over the rolling land and by the sides of the lake. Because dreams have a way of coming true with remarkable rapidity in Florida, Lake Wales is now a community of about 3,000 people, with some very definite accomplishments to its credit.

On June 2 the city, on petition of a large number of citizens, held an election on a bond issue for \$195,000 for developing parks and playgrounds around two beautiful lakes, a baseball and athletic field, a municipal golf course and other improvements. The bond issue carried twelve to one.

Crystal Lake—the smaller of the two lakes—which is in the center of the town, has some superb oak trees and other virgin growth, which, so far as possible, will be left in its native state. Here there will be an outdoor amphitheatre with natural stage setting and a temple of music in Grecian style, situated at the water's edge, with steps leading to the lake. In other sections will be located tennis courts, croquet grounds, grounds for volley ball, horseshoe pitching and similar sports. There will be equipment for the smaller children, including sand banks and wading pools for the tiny tots.

With the able advice of the Correspondence Bureau of the Playground and Recreation Association of America, a Community Council was recently organized with representatives from all the organizations in town—the Chamber of Commerce, Women's Club, Parent-Teacher Association, Boy Scouts, churches and similar groups, who helped through publicity to make the bond issue a success. Committees from the Council will conduct its work in cooperation with the City Park Commissioners in the interest of an adequate recreation program for the entire community.

Recreation for the Small Town and Country*

By

J. W. COVERDALE

Secretary, American Farm Bureau Federation

Your program committee has assigned me the subject "Play for the Small Town and Country," but I much prefer to call it "Recreation for the Small Town and Country" because "play" does not mean the same to the rural folks that it does to the urban communities.

In order that I may better present the rural recreation problem to you I wish to draw a picture of the agricultural population and industry and its relation to the welfare of the nation as a whole.

THE BUSINESS OF AGRICULTURE

We now have a population, according to the latest census, of approximately 117,000,000 people, 31 per cent. of whom are listed as rural folks—26 per cent. of our total population actually engaged in farming.

The total valuation of agriculture in the United States is \$78,000,000,000, which makes it the largest industry in the country today. We hear a great deal about the so-called "big industries" such as manufacturing, and when we summarize the total capital invested in manufacturing enterprises in the United States we find it amounts to \$45,000,000,000. The total valuation of the railroads as given by the Interstate Commerce Commission is a little less than \$19,000,000,000. The total capital and surplus of all the banks in the nation is about \$6,500,000,000. The total valuation of all the coal mines is \$2,250,000,000. In other words the business of agriculture is greater than the combined valuation of the above four great industries. Yet, on the other hand, of the total national income from all of our industries, including agriculture, we find the 31 per cent. of our rural folks receiving but 15 per cent. of the total national income, which is approximately \$10,976,000,000, and out of this amount the farmer pays annually for manufactured commodities handled in the rural homes a little better than \$7,000,000,000.

The farmer pays out directly for freight a lit-

tle better than \$1,000,000,000 annually. He pays for interest to the money markets nearly \$1,000,000,000 annually. He pays in taxes for the upkeep of the government—national, state, county and community—according to records that have been made by the Illinois Agricultural Association, about 85 cents on every \$100 of actual value, or around \$663,000,000, making a total outlay for the four items of some \$9,663,000,000, leaving a balance of \$1,313,000,000 to be divided between 650,000,000 farm families; in other words leaving each family approximately \$220 to pay for the private education of the children, such as music and private college training, to pay the doctor bills, hospital bills, the upkeep of his buildings, the maintenance of his church, his recreation—and the balance may be laid away for savings!

With such conditions existing the problems of rural community development and rural community recreation begin to appear, and one begins to ask what can be done to better this situation. Our answer is: intelligent production, economical transportation, businesslike financing, orderly marketing, and community organizations with well balanced programs of work that will enlist the support of every member of the family and every family of the community.

WHAT CONSTITUTES A COMMUNITY

I have often been asked to define a community. My answer is: A community is a given area measured in size only by the pulling power of its center of attraction. In other words, it might be a small trading center, and there the size of the community would be measured by its trading area. If a church, the size would be the radius of its membership. If a community club, the area would be measured by the scope of its program and the requirements for affiliation.

A trade community may be divided into many activities, such as two or three competitive banks, stores, churches, lodges or clubs, yet all these groups have one common purpose, and if united

*Address delivered at Recreation Congress, Springfield, Illinois, October 9, 1923

for one common purpose the community will be a better place in which to live.

THE PROBLEM OF THE COMMUNITY

The modern question is:

How can we keep our young folks in this community after they are grown?

We believe that these homes of ours are ours only through life, and unless we can leave our farm in a condition capable of producing more food per acre than it did when we took it over, and provide better educational and recreational conditions for our children, then we as a farm family shall not have fulfilled our mission in life.

The American farmer through the intelligent use of advanced machinery has become the greatest producer of food per man unit of any nation. The standard of living of the American farmer is also higher than that of any other nation, yet the product of his labor that goes for export must be sold in competition with the foreign farmer, whose standard of living is low and whose cost of production is kept down by that means.

It is the hope of the American Farm Bureau that enough business can be put into agriculture to lift the nation's greatest industry to a level with the other industries of the nation.

ELECTRICITY AND ITS RELATION TO AGRICULTURE

The American people are now passing into an electrical age where labor is being lightened in the city home as well as in the factory. Transportation is also being facilitated by the use of electrical power. But to date the uses of electricity have been confined almost entirely to our city cousins. Should not these same privileges and comforts of the city home and factory be given to the farm home and farm enterprise? We believe they should, and recently a committee was selected from the Farm Bureau, the National Electric Light Association, the Independent Farm Lighting Manufacturers' Association, the American Society of Agricultural Engineers, and the Rural Engineering Division of the U. S. Department of Agriculture to encourage further study and research on electricity and its relation to agriculture. And it is the hope that eventually drudgery may be taken from the farm and farm home to such an extent that our farm women instead of being broken in health on the average at forty years of age will maintain their health and strength on an equal basis with their city cousins. Only with efficiency and prosperity will agricul-

ture reach a position to enjoy the recreation that rightfully belongs to it.

ORGANIZATION FOR RECREATION

In order that the way may be paved for recreation there must of course be community or county organization, and the Farm Bureau is providing such a division in its departments. The program of the Home and Community Committee is briefly as follows:

1. Assist states in developing county and community programs of work that will benefit the whole family
 - a. Assist in setting up one county in each state with good community organization with monthly programs
 - b. Provide programs for use of communities
 - c. Prepare proper material for debates on questions of national importance
 - d. Assist in correlating the county and community programs with other organizations and with the Agricultural Extension program of the Agricultural College or university to avoid duplication of activities
 - e. Assist in working out recreation and health programs
 - f. Assist in developing more reading material for farm folks
2. Assist states in giving proper assistance to America's best crop—her boys and girls
 - a. Cooperate with National Committee on Boys' and Girls' Club Work
 - b. Cooperate with Extension Agencies in securing local club leaders, and assist in getting proper supervision.

HOW CLAY COUNTY BECAME A REAL COMMUNITY

Perhaps play in the country means something different than in the city, and our interpretation of community recreation might be best illustrated by citing specific instances where marked development can be shown.

In 1913 in Clay County, Iowa, a small group of men and women formed the nucleus of a farm bureau and employed a county agricultural agent. Clay County is strictly a rural county with the largest town having a population of about 4,000, and several little towns, about one to a township. The farms of Clay County averaged the largest of any county in the state, and every member of the farm family was intensely busy keeping those farms going. The business interests were also

busy—looking after their own affairs. The Farm Bureau board was made up of people from the farm and village, and when they first met to consider their program of work for the county agent for the coming year they found that the members of the committee were strangers to one another and not one of them had a definite program in mind.

So an analysis of the county was made to determine first, in their relation, the most important cash crops of the county; second, the problems confronting the people in the growing and marketing of that crop, and third, how and who would attempt to correct the trouble. In the analysis it developed that there was strife in some sections of the county over roads, drainage problems, schools and similar matters. It was decided, therefore, that there should be a small community organization in each township or voting precinct. Then each of these small groups made their analyses, appointed committees, and soon began holding monthly meetings, spending a half day or a whole day each month on the business side of the community.

Debates on road questions, schools and other civic problems were held in the communities, and it was not long before the people, old and young, became better acquainted with their neighbors. When they once learned to understand one another their differences disappeared.

I well remember one community where two neighbors lived less than two miles apart for three years, the women folks never having met except to pass on the road. The community meeting brought about their acquaintance. At the end of the first year a barbecue, picnic, colt and calf show was arranged for the county center. The business interests furnished the barbecue, and 4000 of the people of the county had their first countywide day of recreation.

The second year it was repeated, and the third year it continued to grow. I happened to be at each of the meetings, and during the judging of the cattle the third year I overheard two farmers, one from Clay County and one from an adjoining county, talking. Their conversation ran as follows: "Pete, I wish my farm was in Clay County; it would be worth \$25 an acre more." "Why, Hans, how can that be? Your land is better than ours; it is newer and a little deeper soil." "Well, Pete, the difference in value is not altogether in the soil. Part of the increased value is the community spirit you have. You people are always doing something. You know your neigh-

bors. And the young folks seem satisfied. I have children nearly grown and they don't want to stay on the farm nor even in the county. They are always wanting to go to the city, and often they say, 'Why can't we have a good time and have things going on like they do in Clay County?'"

Such statements as the above may be heard all over the nation where community work is properly developed. Clay County now has the largest county fair in the state. It has the major portion of its boys and girls interested in developing a greater Clay County, and it has developed outstanding leaders—men and women—who are taking an active interest in the county where in 1913 the county was practically lifeless. I believe you will now find a larger percentage of modern farms, farm homes, and farm families in Clay County today than in any other county in the country that bore the same relation to agricultural development as did Clay County in 1913.

THE COUNTRY'S BEST CROP—ITS BOYS AND GIRLS

Boys' and Girls' Club Work, started back in 1904, now has an enrollment of around 700,000 and reaches into every state.

It is a cooperative movement for agricultural education as well as constructive recreation for the farm boy and girl. The National Committee on Boys' and Girls' Club Work is composed of organizations and individuals who have an employed secretary in the person of G. L. Noble, now giving his full time to securing prize money, trips, contests and exhibits for the children of rural districts. This year Iowa has more than 30,000 enrollment and at the recent Iowa State Fair over 900 boys and girls from the different counties who were winners were given a week at the State Fair. Three hundred eighty-four baby beeves were exhibited and at the end of the Fair sold for over \$40,000. Hogs, poultry, canning, sewing and other exhibits of equal importance were shown.

Next December at the International Live Stock Exposition in Chicago, 1500 of these blue ribbon boys and girls from all over the United States will be given a week's recreation in Chicago in connection with the Exposition. Other trips have been given to every State Fair, and to district and county fairs. Many of our present day leaders ten or twelve years ago were enrolled in the club work. The Department of Agriculture, the agricultural colleges and the county extension work have performed a wonderful service to America in this project which has provided both recreation and education.

THE MOTION PICTURE COUNTERACTS THE LURE OF THE CITY

The luring of the American boy and girl to the city must be stopped. The bright lights of the city must be taken to the rural district, and I know of no better way than the motion picture properly made and properly shown. The young folks, since the advent of the automobile, have eliminated distance and will congregate where activities are great enough to attract them. There are now approximately 450 motion picture machines in use in the Farm Bureaus of the United States for rural work, and last year more than seven million rural people saw supervised movies shown by the Farm Bureau agencies. Educational features, comedy and the drama are given in the school house, the church, community hall or large farm house as readily as in the city.

There are 1600 county Farm Bureaus in the United States and they will average six organized rural communities to the county or 9,600 community groups that meet once a month during the winter, and a large portion regularly each month throughout the year. Each of these communities has a program similar to the following:

1. Community singing
2. Extension subject by member or county agent
3. Song
4. Farm Bureau talk by member
5. Reports of current events in state and national offices
6. Entertainment feature—playlet—or debate on some question affecting the welfare of the community
7. Business session
8. Lunch and miscellaneous entertainment.

In this type of program the men, women, boys and girls all have an important part to perform, and it soon brings about a better understanding of each family's problems and an organized plan for solving them. Rural recreation alone will not stand the test of time, but recreation combined with education and activities that promise relief from drudgery and nervous tension, and recrea-

tion that promotes good fellowship and physical poise for the men, women, boys and girls of the community are capable of producing a happy and contented farm folk and a prosperous community.

Pupil Play Leaders

By

R. C. Oliver

Maywood, Illinois

In the recreation program of the five schools of Maywood we have inaugurated a system known as the student supervising method of recreation, which is proving very successful. We select a boy and a girl from each room of the two upper grades to serve as athletic officials. Calling these officials together we talk to them about their responsibility and give them special training in playground games and methods, impressing upon them the ideals of fair play which it is their task to promote. The leaders are then assigned to special rooms in groups of two, a boy to take charge of the boys, a girl to lead the girls in their play. Each leader is given a schedule for the week, the games being varied each day and adapted to the need of the class.

At the beginning of the recreation period of thirty minutes the officials go to the room to which they have been assigned and take their group to the school playground, where games are conducted. A pupil who is guilty of misconduct is deprived of his play period and is graded lower in deportment. The teachers spend part of the period on the ground but they do not assume responsibility for leadership.

The children and faculty are both very enthusiastic about the results. Some very good recreation workers are being developed and the responsibility placed upon the children is helping to strengthen them in many ways. The pupil officials are given grades in their monthly reports according to the way in which they are performing their tasks.

Recreation and the Open Country*

By

JOHN F. SMITH

Berea College, Berea, Kentucky

A recreation program that will reach out and function among the people who dwell at the heads of the hollows is just as essential to a healthy and virile manhood and womanhood there as it is in our most populous cities.

The people of the countryside yearn for expression of body and spirit just as do those who dwell elsewhere. And the boy or girl who lives in the remotest section of a township or county has the same soul-hunger for group-action, joy-making and companionship as those who are surrounded by all the elements that enter into the life of the most favored regions of the land. The nearness to the hills, the fragrance of green things growing, and long miles of rugged road do not suppress the desire of the country boy and girl to share in the play and the joyous fellowship of their neighbors.

"THOU SHALT NOT" TOO FREQUENTLY HEARD

Far too much, it seems to me, of parental interest and training finds expression in suppressive measures. The buoyancy and bubbling spirits of childhood and youth are too often suppressed and discouraged by those whose interest in the welfare of their children cannot be questioned. Well thought-out measures for promoting the health and morals of youth, and definite plans for constructive leadership and direction in leisure-time activities are too frequently supplanted by the oft repeated "thou shalt not" of parents. In instances far too numerous to be encouraging the boy must not run on the lawn grass, must not throw rocks, must not climb trees, must not chase the cat, must not frighten the chickens, must not play in dirt, must not go about the creek, must not do any of the things which every healthy country boy in the absence of adequate means of expression is bursting to do. The girl is much more hedged about than the boy. Those fine, invigorating out-door activities such as camping, climbing, hiking, running, swimming and the like are too often denied her. She must be merely the conventional girl who pleases grandmother, and she dare not enter into any fun and frolics

which grandmother could not with perfect propriety, as grandmother sees it, enter. In other words, it is easier for a great multitude of parents in the open country to say, "Thou shalt not," than it is to plan a program of play and recreation for the leisure hours of their children. And many a parent's heart is broken, and many a home circle is made sorrowful because a son or a daughter falls or leaves the hearthstone to seek the joys which every child is entitled to but which so many homes and neighborhoods do not afford. It cannot be doubted by those who know country life that in spite of all the good it possesses and all the joy it has to offer there is a very large percentage of parents who do not understand and appreciate the fundamental needs of childhood and youth for joyous recreation and well-directed leisure-time activities.

EVILS OF REPRESSION

A result of this neglect of youth is often seen in certain vices and irregularities which creep into the life of the community and poison good American blood at its very source. All students of rural life are agreed that much of the virility in the blood of the nation comes from quiet homes in sequestered places where the hardy country folk dwell. These same students also know that a great deal of the pollution in our country life comes from those neighborhoods where youth is denied an outlet for the wholesome expression of its energies and desires.

Deny play and other interesting forms of recreation to isolated people and we invite insanity born of loneliness and brooding over joys longed for but never realized. Or we help to make the conditions where youth finds it easy to indulge in sexual license and other forms of dissipation which sap the finer qualities and leave but the mere skeletons of manhood and womanhood to set the moral pace for the next generation.

When the youth who live out in very remote places are denied opportunities for joyous self-expression they are likely to develop certain unsocial qualities that make them less desirable citizens or even a menace to the society about them. They cannot grow into normal men and women

*Address given at Recreation Congress, Springfield, Illinois, October 9, 1923

unless they can find normal outlets for their pent-up energies. All who are acquainted with large numbers of people who live in isolated places can recall many who possess the particular kind of qualities which least fit them for active participation in the affairs which should enlist the co-operative interest of all right-minded people. Thus is life often tainted in the very regions where it should be purest, and the strength which the nation draws from the hills is too often weakened because so many of the people who dwell there have not adequate means of developing the traits that would best fit them to be sovereign rulers of a great nation.

Those of us who are interested in the various phases of Americanization should not overlook this great opportunity to make of the open country the finest seed bed of all that is best in our social and national life. Without play the lofty ideals of many a country youth perish.

PURIFY LIFE AT ITS SOURCE

Some way must be found to keep the life and ideals of the hill country pure. It is far better to purify life at its source than to remove a taint once it is implanted. The days of hunting are about over for most people, and the fine thrill of the chase is becoming a matter of history. Something worth while must take its place. The day of log-rollings, house-raising and other similar group activities belongs to former generations, and nothing has been offered to country dwellers in their stead. It is true that the automobile has come, but I am thinking of that vast army of people who dwell in places where automobiles are not plentiful and where the country is so rugged that they will never be abundant. And I question seriously whether the automobile will ever be instrumental in developing those fine American qualities that are indigenous to the soil where country folk meet together in a neighborly way and share each other's hopes and fears, sorrows and joys on a common level, where they sing together, play together and worship together as become citizens of a true democracy.

ARE THE SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES HELPING?

Insofar as it reaches the people of the remote countryside the present-day program of athletics in our schools and colleges is a miserable failure. It does not develop play leaders; it does not teach the masses how to play profitably; it does not demonstrate what can be done in remote neighborhoods; it does not suggest in the remotest de-

gree a solution of the problems of recreation in individual homes, but it does tend to develop professionalism on the playground and snobbery in the few who participate in the games of the stadium and the bowl. And yet millions of dollars are spent by our colleges and universities in promoting conventional athletics among those who need that kind least. I wonder how long it will be until they begin devoting time and means to providing recreational opportunities for the millions of youth and adults of the open country who do the hard first-things in our agricultural life and who will never sit in college halls or share the artificial life on the campuses of our universities.

Perhaps sometime when our great educational institutions experience a new birth some college or university which thinks more of neglected humanity than it does of developing star players and winning games will immortalize itself and render an inestimable service to the nation by scrapping its major athletic activities and introducing on the campus a recreation program that will bring thousands instead of dozens into play, will put the emphasis on play for those who need it most rather than for those who need physical development least, will train leaders who will carry the blessings of joyous self-expression to the isolated homes of the countryside and introduce into the life of the neglected and forgotten boy and girl of remote regions an element that will add a thousand joys to their daily life and make them worthier citizens of our great nation. May some institution be brave and fearless enough to point the way by introducing such a program and thus win a richer life by rendering a greater service.

If no leading college or university possesses the will power to cast off the fetters of conventional campus athletics and adopt this program of larger service, then some organization not hampered by specified gifts and alumni opinion must show the way.

WHAT KINDS OF RECREATION ARE NEEDED?

What are some of the kinds of recreation needed by the people of the remote countryside?

1. Various kinds of handicraft that develop skill, furnish a means of self-expression, and yield an income.

The country man who needs most to play is often the man who also needs more food, more clothes, better creature comforts. It is useless to try to persuade a boy to play when he is hungry.

His bodily needs must be satisfied before his soul needs can be supplied.

2. Good stories for the fireside

The service now rendered by our schools that offer only the conventional courses will be greatly increased when they require every student to take a thorough course in the stories, songs, plays and games of childhood and the technique of directing the play of little children. So much is now told that is idle and even vulgar that it is little wonder that children grow up with perverted ideas and standards of morality. The most sacred things in life are often made the butt of jests. Evil stories must be overcome with good ones, and some institution or organization must lead out in teaching the good stories to those who will pass them on where they are most needed.

3. Group-singing and folk-dancing

One of the queer things about country life in remote regions is the fact that a very large percentage of the ministers are opposed to people getting together for the purpose of making merry. Part of this opposition is founded on good reason, part of it is traditional, a sort of left-over from Puritan days. But in spite of this attitude the need for singing and group merry-making is very great. One needs only to go to a church in the average isolated neighborhood and listen to the singing to be convinced that merry songs deserve to be known and sung by all the people. And the folk dances that bring neighbors together in congenial relationships would prove a blessing far beyond that which the forgotten youth now knows.

4. Reading of the right kind

The isolated country child has almost nothing to read. Here lies a vast opportunity for college libraries, public libraries, and literary circles. Only here and there is any effort made to put suitable reading matter into the hands of the neglected boy and girl, and most of these efforts accomplish little more than the discovery of the real problems involved. How shall they believe

in the ideals of a nation about which they have not read? And how shall they read except books be sent? And how may they be sent while postal rates are so high and while most of our libraries forbid the use of books to all except the fortunate few who come within their walls?

What shall we do about the boy and girl and the exhausted mother at the head of the hollow?

5. Inexpensive home-made play apparatus

At the majority of homes in the Southland there is little or no play apparatus for children, the numerous simple things that mean so much for the healthy boy and girl are conspicuously absent. There is no playground, no portion of field or meadow set apart and protected where children may play. They must seek their playgrounds among the trees and hills, often purposely out of sight of parents.

6. Entertainment by home talent

A great deal of effort has been spent by well-meaning persons in devising ways and means of entertaining the people of the open country. Some would send professional entertainers among them; some would install a movie picture machine in every neighborhood and have the people gather and sit still while they look at pictures; others would resort to the radio. Some of these are partly right, but all are in the wrong. Country folk should be led to utilize the vast amount of recreation material which they already have and should do most of their own entertaining. There is more material and more talent available than many people dream of and the people will add to their joys a thousand fold when all this talent and material is put to work.

Finally, what is the kind of recreation that will satisfy the people of the countryside?

It must be related to the economic life. It must produce physical and mental health. It must in most instances be spiritualized, be associated with the highest development of the individual and the community, and it must be "of the people, for the people, by the people."

The chief impact of a person's life comes through his group activities, and if he is to make any contribution to the larger life it will be found predominantly in such relations. Failure to recognize this fact accounts for the existence of so many good people who are thoroughly bad. If ethics are to function in the family but not in the chamber of commerce, in the church but not in the board of directors, in the Rotary club but not in the factory—then we may as well have no ethics, for the places where we talk about ethics are relatively unimportant while the places where we act significantly shape our lives and other lives and determine whether we are building a miserable or a joyful world.—E. C. Lindeman, *The Survey*.

An Inner-Court Playground

By

R. K. ATKINSON

Russell Sage Foundation

"I want you to meet Mr. Scarlotti, the man who has made this possible by giving us the use of his land." We were standing in a little playground about 150 feet square in the heart of the congested section of Hartford. We had entered the playground through a ten foot alley leading back between the tenements. After passing through the alley, which was dark and dingy, we came out upon an open space surrounded on three sides by



A SECTION OF BENCH AND FENCE UTILIZED BY THE PARK DEPARTMENT OF HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT, IN BEAUTIFYING SECTIONS IN TENEMENT DISTRICTS

the rear porches of four-story tenements, while upon the fourth side was the rear of a garage with the usual group of battered and partly dismantled automobiles. This "backyard" of the tenements, where one would not have been surprised to discover tin cans and ash heaps, was filled with laughing children at play, and surrounded by a row of benches back of which was an eight foot hedge with flowering shrubs. Small wonder that at twilight the porches of the tenements were crowded with mothers who watched their children at play, and that Mr. Scarlotti should have shown just a little bit of pride as he modestly said, "Oh, I have done very little to let Mr. Parker clean up my lot and put in the play apparatus."

It was the beginning of the summer and we had approached the playground through streets that were crowded with children, and then when the automobile in which we were driving stopped

we walked through the narrow alley to find ourselves suddenly in this beauty spot. This development of the inner-court playground is made possible by an ingenious device which has been developed by George Parker, Superintendent of Parks in the City of Hartford. It is a combination of fence and park bench which is made in eight foot sections, the bench and fence being bolted together. It can be set up in any space and in any combination of the eight foot units. The space of about six feet between the bench and the fence is used for the planting of shrubbery from the nurseries and greenhouses of the Park Department, so that each of these little inner-court playgrounds, of which there are many in the city of Hartford, not only provides play space for little children close to their own homes but also brings into the section of the city, which needs it most, some of the beauty of Hartford's remarkable park system. As the summer season advances the shrubbery is changed occasionally and in the late summer evergreens are substituted for flowering plants in those playgrounds which carry on into the fall and winter.

The plan not only has a great deal to recommend it where privately owned lands are used temporarily for play space, but it also provides a very practical way of bringing the artistic and beautiful to the playground without in any way hampering its use for active play and games.

In a crowded section of the east side of New York City, a young woman director of a playground remarked to the policeman on the beat, "I could take care of more small children here, and yet the nearby streets are crowded. Why don't they come here?" The policeman answered, "I don't know but maybe I can find out for you." He talked the matter over with his precinct captain and the next day every roundsman in the district was instructed to ask the mothers why their children played in the street. The third day the mothers' answer was returned. It was as unanimous as it was obvious: "We want the children to play where we can see them and where they can hear us when we call them."

The problem is difficult of solution in the crowded city, but every bit of open space, be it ever so small, which can be discovered and put to use as Superintendent Parker is doing with this backyard and a number of other small parcels of land in Hartford helps just so much to better the environment of the children.

Reports sent Mr. Parker by Miss Marion L. Kropp, who is in charge of one of the play-

grounds, show an attendance from May through October of 36,758.

"The yard which Mr. Weinstein gave us was soon made very attractive by the placing of shrubs around the inclosure. Benches completely inclosed the playground proper. Nothing remained now to make it attractive to the children but the installing of apparatus which consists of one cellar door slide, three rope swings, three chair swings for the babies, one see-saw and a sand pile. Never were there such shrieks of delight as the children gave when they watched the setting-up of equipment.

"Until three o'clock the little folk of kindergarten age reign supreme. Soon after this an army of boys and girls from the grades rushes in and how they do enjoy themselves! About six o'clock workers from stores, shops and factories make their appearance. Mention must be made here of the parents who come to watch their little ones at play. All seem to appreciate what has been done for them.

"The past few days all hands have been getting ready for school. Following my suggestion both boys and girls have had their heads thoroughly saturated with kerosene. I seem to be establishing quite a reputation as tonsorial artiste. How nervous I was when I was first called into one of the homes, handed a pair of immense scissors and asked if I would cut Dominick's curls! I don't want to appear egotistical but Dominick soon appeared with quite a fine bob, even to the shaving up the back!

"The next day I trimmed two more. There are two more customers awaiting me tomorrow.

"Several mothers have brought outgrown dresses of big sister and wanted to know how they could be made over for little sister. Mothers who never before attempted dressmaking are now turning out pretty little dresses and boys' suits and are so happy and proud of their results."

"Today marked the end of several happy weeks for many who daily came to the Pleasant Street Playground—grownups, children and "Teach."

"For the grownups, they have proved very profitable and beneficial weeks. Hygiene, social and personal; the care and feeding of babies—the dangers of giving them cucumbers and unripe fruit; child training—why the children should not be hit over the head; practical demonstrations in cooking and the forming of well balanced and yet inexpensive meals with the elimination of coffee and tea and the substitution of milk and cocoa for children; the making of little trousers from

father's worn-out ones and little rompers and dresses from mother's and big sister's cast-off, have all been taught.

"The children also have made strides toward becoming better Americans. In the morning, all, even the three year olds, would appear with brushed teeth, scrubbed face, neck, arms and legs and combed hair. It was soon proved that dirty children are cross, scrappy children, and that on sweltering hot nights those who went to bed clean woke up next morning more rested than those who were dirty.

"With all this, the children have never wanted for stories, new games and other methods of self-expression."

Activities in Elmira

When Elmira Community Service began to take stock for its third year report, it found that its program included more than fifty activities. A few of the more unusual follow:

A Boys' Band with 145 members is rehearsing twice a week. The boys have bought their own instruments and pay for their lessons. The development of the band has made it possible, it is said, for most of the schools to have orchestras.

Contests—A number of contests have been held; among them have been contests in bird house building, baseball pitching, model airplane building and flying, kite flying and model house building.

Doll Fashion Shows

Golfing. An unused part of a local park was converted into a golf course in which Community Service invested \$526, the Recreation Commission and Park Board furnishing the upkeep.

Block Parties and Old-time Square Dances

Roller Skating. Paved, smooth blocks are set aside between 4 and 7 p. m.

Traveling Theatre. This theatre, 16' x 15' with footlights and ten border lights, costs \$525 for construction and \$56 for curtains. The theatre has lent a great deal to the success of community singing. Blue prints showing the construction of the theatre may be secured at cost from Elmira Community Service.

Many other activities might be listed. The thirty-two page booklet in which the activities are described is attractively illustrated. It is suggested that anyone desiring a copy write to Mr. Z. Nespor, Executive Secretary, Elmira Community Service, 413 East Water Street, Elmira, N. Y.

Portchester Mothers Learn the Science of Play

By

MABEL TRAVIS WOOD

It started in the yard of a mother in Portchester, N. Y., who had the pleasant custom of playing with her children and some of the neighbors' children almost every summer evening. Last winter she told Miss Rieman, the city's director of recreation, of her home play nights and of her desire to learn more games. Thus grew the idea of a play class, to teach all the mothers of the neighborhood games they could play with their children.

When they were asked to join the class, the mothers were most polite. "Yes, I'd be delighted to come—but—of course, I'm not sure that I would have the time for it."

After the first meeting they all decided that they certainly would have time for it! Since then these mothers have met every other Friday night, studying and discussing a portion of Joseph Lee's *Play in Education*, learning new games to play with their children. Not only do they learn games, but they learn the psychological reasons for each game's existing and the things which it can contribute to the physical and mental growth of the child.

Every Saturday morning Tommy, aged eight, asks his mother, one of the play group, "Well, Mother, what games did you learn last night? Let's have 'em!"

The program at the meetings is as follows:
1. Reading of Joseph's Lee's *Play in Education*.
2. Playing of children's games, both active and quiet. Discussing the value of the game for the child.
3. Surveying the "table of interest." On this table each mother places at each meeting something she thinks will be of help and interest to the other mothers. It may be a book or magazine dealing with child training, a clipping, or a sample copy of a child's magazine, such as *John Martin's Book*.

The most interesting thing to the leader of the

class has been the unfolding of the play spirit in the mothers. They are re-entering the delightful play world they knew as little girls. Self-conscious at first, they now play with the zest of children. They look forward to Friday evenings because it means they are going to have a good time, as well as to learn things that will put them in closer touch with their children.

One night the reading and discussion took more time than usual. "Aren't we going to play any games tonight?" one mother finally asked. Then she admitted shamelessly, "I want to play. Come, let's play we're Indians!"

The mothers are trying out all the games at home, and finding that they work. They say that they never before have realized the true meaning of the child's play life, and, now that they are learning, they have a greater respect for their children. One mother announced, "When I'm in the kitchen, working, and I see Johnny playing around on the floor, he looks entirely different to me than he used to. Now I know why he is playing and I can help him play."

One of the mothers has built in her back yard a sand box which is patronized by all the children of the neighborhood. Soon she is going to install some mattresses for tumbling stunts. "We understand other people's children better," this mother remarked. "We can look at them with deeper understanding."

Several of the mothers of boys have adopted this plan—each boy is allowed to bring a boy friend home to supper with him once a week. To one mother, who has three boys, this means three supper guests a week, but she says it is very little extra work. After supper some sort of entertainment is arranged for the boys—story-telling, games, music, or "listening in" on the radio.

The neighborhood spirit which has come about as a result of the class is just as valuable as the play spirit. Many of the mothers had lived near each other for years but had not known each other. After the second meeting they were taking each other home. Out of this new friendliness and cooperation many things for neighborhood betterment promise to blossom.

Physical tests undergone by Barnard College freshmen, according to Miss Agnes R. Wayman, head of the department of physical education in Barnard College, reveal that the average freshman is gaining in strength and in lung capacity, but a large percentage have defective hearts.

A Message from an Active Playground Worker*

It is a pleasure to receive your letter in this far away yet wonderful island.

I have visited the various schools here in this large city of Honolulu and have found that they are doing pretty well in providing playgrounds for the children and in one respect their facilities surpass those of any place I have ever before seen. The Pacific Ocean and the beach is constantly in use and the many coral reefs that extend out for more than a quarter of a mile, I should judge, make it possible to wade far out in the warm water. With one of their red wood boards, shaped liking an ironing board, they ride in on the surf lying flat or sitting or even standing although the surf pursues them and laughingly tips them over if it can. They considered it quite a feat when the Prince of Wales succeeded in maintaining his balance standing within three hours from the time he went in. As I watch from the beach there will be at all hours of the day and frequently in the evening quite a number swimming, playing ball, riding in boats or on boards—regardless of the tipping over or being swamped. This is possible because the water is shallow and therefore they have no fear of drowning—and also they say who know that the buoyancy of the water seems much greater than on the waters of the Atlantic Ocean.

A public bathing beach gives an opportunity for general bathing. This hotel is on the shore—the Young Women's Christian Association maintains a beach cottage—and altogether boys, girls, men and women are frequently in by the hundred. I counted nearly that number in the afternoon.

We have three Parent-Teachers' Associations here which have joined our National organization and three more ready to join. One of these, the Central Public School, has thirty or more nation-

alities represented. They are anxious to improve their playground and provide equipment for it. They have recently had a fair and have raised some \$400 towards equipment to put in their school yard, which is fairly good sized.

I find the people hungry to know of all the good things. The educational facilities are very good on the whole but of course it is a great financial strain on the 25,000 white leaders to provide for the large population of Japanese, Chinese, Hawaiians and Polish and mixtures. Today I visited five of their kindergartens—one composed almost wholly of little Japanese, as bright apparently as any of our children of the same age and even better behaved and more orderly—easy to manage. The Hawaiians are a very musical people and they all sing and play the ukelele and guitar and banjo—and they nearly always sing when they play. Professor Dykema could have given a star performance which would astonish the nation if he had had Hawaiians for his impromptu performance.

Even the hula dance with the natives is a different and much more graceful performance when one understands its origin and significance. A more enthusiastic, eager set of people I never saw, than are these Hawaiians. A sad strain in their melodies shows their deep feelings—their appreciation of any attention is very marked. Between seven and eight hundred came out in the school yard from all the grades and stood perfectly quiet while an entertainment of beautiful singing and many selections from Longfellow were recited in honor of his birthday and then they listened to me,—all this with even greater attention than one's own children would—barefooted, bare legged, with skin as brown as a berry they stood with the sun shining upon them so still that not a word of reproof was given by the teachers. You see I am enthusiastic.

We leave for the main land this week.

Most sincerely,
KATHARINE CHAPIN HIGGINS

*Mrs. Milton P. Higgins, of Worcester, Massachusetts, for many years President of the National Parent-Teachers' Association and Congress of Mothers' Clubs, writes from Hawaii.

The third and greatest way in which the writer can ease the future is simply stated in the words: "Fair Play." The power of the Press is a good third to the powers of Science and Finance. If the Press, as a whole, never diverged from fair report; if it refused to give unmeasured service to party or patriotic passion; if it played the game as Sport plays it—what a clearance of the air!

—From *International Thought: The Key to the Future* by John Galsworthy
In *The Living Age*, December 1, 1923

Recreational Problems in City Planning

At the Recreation Congress held at Atlantic City, October 9-12, 1922, much interest was expressed in the subject of *Recreation and City Planning*, and at the request of a number of city planners and recreation workers a committee was appointed to study the whole question and to present information which would serve as a guide in city planning. The Committee consists of Mr. Ernst Hermann, West Newton, Chairman; George Ford, New York City; Chauncey Hamlin, Buffalo; Prof. Hubbard, Harvard University; and Arthur Leland, Newport, R. I.; John Nolen, Cambridge, Mass.; and Clarence Perry, New York City.

At the Recreation Congress held at Springfield, Illinois, Mr. Ernst Hermann presented a tentative report based on replies to a questionnaire sent recreation superintendents and executives and others whose technical knowledge would enable them to make a contribution to the discussion. The discussion which followed the presentation of the report showed a general acceptance of Part I of the report dealing with the classification of playgrounds. In this classification play areas are defined as follows:

I. Play Lots

For babies and children up to five years of age with benches and tables for mothers, nurses and older sisters, to replace the lost street play and disappearing backyards

Size

6,000 to 10,000 square feet

Location

As near as possible to center for every child population of 100 children below school age. Children should be able to reach it by walking around block without crossing a street

Layout

There should be one central grass plot with sand boxes with movable covers at intervals set around borders under trees. There should be block-building platforms continuous to each sandbox

Equipment

Sand tools, large building blocks, one small slide, eight baby swings, low drinking fountain, benches, tables, shelter for baby car-

riages and from sudden rains, toilet and play materials

II. Neighborhood Playgrounds

To replace lost play on the streets and open lots for general play for children up to 14 years of age and for older ones

Size

From four to ten acres, if possible square or rectangular in shape

Location

Most effective radius for playgrounds of this type is about one-half mile

Layout

There should be baseball and football diamonds, bleachers for about five hundred spectators, two or three auxiliary backstops with junior and midget diamonds, one or two tennis courts, several permanent game courts, small locker buildings with separate toilet facilities, wading pool, tables with benches for quiet games and handicraft play, if possible, a "Play Lot," and a jumping pit 50 to 75 yards straight-away

Equipment

One or two 16-foot slides, from two to four sets of swing frames, two teeter sets and, if supervision is continuous, a merry-go-round, a giant stride and a gymnasium frame 16 feet high with two horizontal bars, two vertical ladders, four climbing ropes and two teeter ladders

III. District Playgrounds

For the active play of adults and young people over twelve years with natural advantages for some park effects. The District Playground must be large enough for a generous layout for games such as baseball, football, tennis and track athletics and yet offer park development with one or two small groves of trees. The ground should be suitable for use for picnics, field days and national celebrations

Size

Ten to twenty-four acres

Location

One for every eight to twelve thousand inhabitants or one for every five hundred children of high school age. The most effective radius is one-half to one mile

*Discussion at Recreation Congress, Springfield, Illinois, October 11, 1923

Layout

Two major baseball fields, one two-thirds of a mile track around one of the baseball diamonds, four to six auxiliary backstops, eight to twenty-four tennis courts, four to six handball courts, permanent game courts, field house and bowling green. The layout should allow for landscape park features and one or two small groves of trees and should include the features of a neighborhood playground

Equipment

Same as equipment for a Neighborhood Playground with 50% increase of each kind if there is no neighborhood playground within one-half mile

IV. *Recreation Park*

A City Park to provide as far as is consistent with fairly intensive use access to large open areas away from the city

Size

100 to 250 acres

Location

One for every 40,000 inhabitants, tangent to or near the city limits of such population

Layout

Fifty per cent. of total area should be woodland with varieties of large shade trees in groves of six to ten acres affording different landscape effects. The whole should be planned with a view to effective winter recreation. Twenty-five per cent. should be devoted to modern landscape enhancements of nature and to bird and plant reservations; ten per cent. to reservations for native animals; ten per cent. for water recreation including skating in winter, and four per cent. for play and game fields. This layout should provide for entertainment of families or organizations out for a day's picnic and for mothers and children. The groves of trees should provide a variety of picnic places with opportunities for simple cooking. There should be shelters and toilet buildings, caretaker's quarters and automobile parking enclosure.

Equipment

A few sand gardens and swings near the picnic places, some rustic benches and tables, drinking fountains, washing and cooking accommodations and incinerators

V. *The Reservation*

A public area owned by the United States, a state, a county or a city; similar in purpose, layout and equipment to the Recreation Park for cities but less intensively developed and used. It usually includes camping sites and automobile routes and is mainly intended to furnish for the average family wholesome week-end excursions or longer vacations.

A reservation should have a building offering simple and wholesome hotel accommodations.

DISCUSSION OF THE REPORT

There was almost unanimous agreement on the proposal that virtually all playgrounds for boys and girls under eleven or twelve years of age should be attached or adjacent to elementary public schools, and it was urged that in future planning playgrounds for younger children should be so located.

The question, "Should the school playground be supplemented by additional municipal playgrounds for children of kindergarten age," aroused much discussion. While most of those taking part in the discussion believed that supplementary playgrounds should be provided, there was some difference of opinion as to the desirability of locating them in places other than the backyard or interior of blocks on account of the danger to smaller children in crossing city streets. The final decision reached was that the municipality should provide small play areas for children of kindergarten age in addition to school playgrounds with the understanding, however, that a recommendation regarding backyard playgrounds be included as follows:

That school playgrounds should be supplemented by additional municipal playgrounds especially for children of kindergarten age, and that the meeting go on record as requesting city planners to give consideration and study to the problem of back-lot play areas for small children.

It was the consensus of opinion, though no formal vote was taken, that municipal playgrounds for children over eleven or twelve years of age should be provided in connection with Junior High Schools and High Schools.

There was considerable discussion of the question, "Should recess playgrounds only be provided in connection with Junior High Schools, and larger playgrounds for the larger games be provided separately or possibly in the parks?"

A few of those taking part in the discussion felt that school officials would not follow out a recommendation that all Junior High Schools be provided with large playgrounds. It was voted, however, that District Playgrounds should be planned in connection with all Junior High Schools with the understanding that the school grounds shall be equipped in such a way as to make certain facilities available for community groups making use of the playgrounds all the year around.

The question of play standards was discussed at some length although there seemed to be little decided difference of opinion on the subject. The following standards were agreed upon:

1. Elementary Schools. The normal amount of play space per school child at the maximum development of the school should be 200 square feet—(100 sq. ft. should be the absolute minimum)—and that the minimum total area for an elementary school site should be eight acres including the land on which the school itself is situated.

2. Intermediate Schools. That the minimum total area for an intermediate school site should be ten to twenty acres.

3. High Schools. That the minimum total area should be twenty to forty acres.

Three different agencies, according to reports now being assembled by the International Labor Conference for preparation of its session in the fall, are primarily concerned in initiating recreational programs for adult workers. This subject has come up prominently for discussion in a number of countries because legislative restrictions of working hours have increased the leisure time available for mental and physical improvement and for play. In some countries, notably England, employers have gone a long way in providing not only playgrounds, but also gymnasias, swimming baths, reading rooms and facilities for cultural education. In others, notably France and Italy, workers' organizations—co-operatives and trades unions—have organized great "peoples' houses" and a multitude of self-governing clubs and societies for music, athletics, games and self-improvement. In still other countries, notably Belgium, the government has visualized the need for recreational work at the same time that eight-hour day legislation was passed, and provided for it by financing local authorities and private agencies engaged in recreational work.

—From *The Survey*, October 15, 1923

The Opportunity of the Recreation Executive*

In discussing this topic A. J. Parkin, Secretary of Community Service at Whiting, Indiana, spoke first of the qualifications necessary in a recreation executive. These he likened to a bill of fare, divided into three parts—the things that start the meal; the meal itself; the dessert.

A WELL-BALANCED MEAL

The qualifications that start the meal are visionability, which includes imaginability and creatability, pushability, flexibility, personability, likeability and businessability. The meal itself—the qualifications which are essential—are first of all generalability—the leadership without which there can be no accomplishment,—salesability, inspirability, pushability—the continual keeping at the thing in which one believes until it is effected—pepability, contentability—the art of being satisfied even with slow progress—get-onability, gump-tionability, buckability, receptability, tactability, duckability—letting the rocks go over one's head—talkability and shutupability.

The dessert, Mr. Parkin characterized as finishability—the power to close a situation.

THE FIELD OF OPPORTUNITY

"No organization," said Mr. Parkin, "has really a right to exist at the present time unless it is making some definite contribution to world problems which will help bring peace and happiness out of the chaos." The local recreation executive has one of the greatest opportunities, because he is working in a field where a contribution can be made to individual happiness and community morale. The recreation executive is not working with any one group in the community; he is working with all. He has the opportunity to bring all the men and women of the community together to work with a singleness of heart and purpose on projects which are of mutual interest. And any undertaking can be successful when a sufficiently large number of people in any community are in favor of it. He may stimulate individual and group powers of expression and get them into action. He cannot legislate people into the right attitude of mind, but through a community-wide program he can approach native and foreign born groups and bring them together on common ground.

*Discussion at Recreation Congress, Springfield, Illinois, October 9, 1923

The recreation executive has unlimited opportunity in his contacts with all the people of a community to impress upon them that as it is his task and privilege to give all he can to them, so it is their privilege to share their moral, spiritual and intellectual resources that a real citizenship may be developed. People will respond to this appeal.

Further, there is the opportunity which the recreation executive has to do those things which are bringing spirit of contentment into the community, and—what is of great importance—to help make people more physically and morally fit.

In no field of work is there so great an opportunity, as in the leisure time movement, to enlist boys and girls in their free time, and to tie them up to activities and ideals which will mean the laying of sound and permanent foundations for the right kind of living.

Everybody everywhere is a seeker after happiness. It is the privilege of the recreation executive to show people that the real secret of happiness is in service and that when they plan, play and pull together, the result must be happy communities.

Industrial Recreation

(Continued from page 339)

men have a two weeks' vacation every year with pay.

In one Chicago factory the factory manager has a bureau with all sorts of vacation literature and when one of the employees asks, "Where can I go and what can I do for \$25?" he has the information in a jiffy.

The Industrial Relations Association of America has made a survey that shows that of 106 industrial enterprises, thirty-eight grant factory workers annual vacations with pay.

A New Recreation Department

The City of Shreveport, Louisiana, has established a recreation department and approximately \$7,200 has been set aside for the recreation budget. Grover C. Thames, Executive Secretary of the local Community Service Group, will serve as Supervisor of Recreation for the new department. Community Service will continue to function and assist in the program.

Recreation Publicity*

At the meeting on Publicity at which Edward L. Burchard, Associate Editor of *The Community Center*, presided, ways and means were discussed for securing publicity for recreational activities.

PUBLICITY THROUGH LITERATURE

The importance was stressed of having attractive literature in the form of posters, circulars and dodgers for, as Mr. Burchard said, "Good literature gets attendance and attendance means dollars when it comes to securing tax money." The "City fathers" are not keen to appropriate funds for facilities which are little used, but if it is something the people really want, the funds will be forthcoming. In connection with the problem of attendance and of advertising to secure attendance the warning was sounded, "Don't advertise an event unless you are certain you are going to produce the goods." Nothing is so fatal to the attendance and to the popularity of an activity as failure to do the thing promised. Further, an activity must be really good and worth while if people are to have an incentive to attend. There is no publicity so effective or so full of drawing power as centers and activities which are well conducted and which permit of real self-expression.

PICTURES

Charles Ernest, Executive Secretary of Wilmington, Delaware, Community Service, urged the importance of using pictures and illustrations which are attractive and compelling. In a recent financial campaign for playgrounds held in Wilmington constant use was made of an illustration showing a little girl in a swing. The picture was full of life and action. It was used everywhere—on posters, in street cars and in store windows; on banners and on letterheads. Everywhere the little girl in the swing greeted the citizens of Wilmington and made her appeal to them for more playgrounds. The success of the campaign was due to a large degree, Mr. Ernst felt, to the irresistible appeal of the picture.

Pictures and telling captions were very successfully used in a recent exhibit of interest to automobilists. Posters were shown with pictures of automobiles struggling to make their way through streets crowded with pedestrians; these bore the caption, "Motorists have a right to the streets." The contrasting picture showed the chil-

*Discussion at Recreation Congress, Springfield, Illinois, October 9, 1923

dren on the playground—"Children have a right to playgrounds."

NEWSPAPER PUBLICITY

The newspaper is an excellent medium and it is very important for the recreation executive to secure the good-will and cooperation of newspaper editors and reporters. Accounts of games, announcements of activities, articles and editorials on the value of recreation, with possibly some comparison with work in other cities of a similar size, all make good newspaper publicity. It is advisable, it was pointed out, that the recreation executive or publicity committee shall prepare material for newspaper use regularly and not spasmodically.

DEMONSTRATIONS AND EXHIBITIONS

These are among the best possible channels of publicity. Exhibits in store windows of articles made by the children, a pageant on the playground, a play festival, children in folk dances and games, a miniature swimming pool in a store window (if the swimming pool is the immediate project)—are all immensely valuable and can be used to great advantage.

It was further suggested that the motion pictures showing recreation activities, and the radio which provides opportunity for recreation officials to broadcast a great deal of information on the recreation movement, should be more widely used.

So much interest was expressed in the subject of publicity that it was urged a series of section meetings be arranged at the next Congress at which publicity may be discussed from the point of view of "stunt" publicity, newspaper publicity, publicity for finance and other phases of the problem. It was also urged that a clinic be held at which various pieces of publicity shall be criticized from the point of view of form and content.

In connection with the need for a book on publicity, which a number of those present felt to be urgent, it was pointed out that the Playground and Recreation Association of America has issued a booklet entitled "Pioneering for Play," which offers suggestions for conducting campaigns and securing publicity for recreation.

Wanted: Copies of THE PLAYGROUND for January, 1924. If you do not wish to keep your copy will you sell it back? We need it. 315 Fourth Ave, New York City.

Physical Efficiency Tests*

Lee Hanmer, chairman of the section meeting on Physical Efficiency Tests, in opening the discussion pointed out that the use of such tests is growing as a means for measuring the physical development of boys and girls and also as a means for determining and establishing proper physical standards. Formerly physical efficiency was decided on the basis of athletic events as a measuring stick, and the ability of a boy or girl was determined more or less by performance in particular athletic events. This method was followed by the development of local Athletic Badge Tests which, although crude, would stimulate an effort to measure efficiency on a more well-rounded basis. These local efforts finally resulted in the development of standards on a national basis. This type of physical efficiency tests—characterized by Mr. Hanmer as "do or don't" tests inasmuch as boys or girls do or do not succeed in meeting a certain standard—is differentiated from the army camp tests and the National Amateur Athletic Federation tests in that the latter give a grade according to the performance and there is no set standard to be met.

Colonel Griffiths, who has been active in the development of athletics and physical efficiency tests in army camps and in connection with the Amateur Athletic Federation, pointed out that there are three phases of the physical efficiency test, the first thing to be determined being the purpose of the test; the second, the proper method of achieving such purpose; and the third, the adequate standard for measuring results to be sure that the method does achieve the purpose in mind. He described the first method of physical measurement as the anthropometrical test used in measuring physical muscular strength particularly. During the war the army method was changed considerably so that finally the camp athletic tests were developed as a means for measuring functional development, to show the extent to which the soldiers could do the type of physical thing which the war required that they be able to do. The old method was not of great value in this because it was found that many who would measure high according to the anthropometrical method of judging physical development would achieve poor results when judged by tests designed to bring out functional ability. It was the results brought out by these tests which convinced

*Discussion at Recreation Congress, Springfield, Illinois, October 10, 1923

the army personnel of the value of athletics in military training. The camp tests included a short run, broad jump, fence climb and hand grenade throw. These events, Colonel Griffiths pointed out, not only developed functions needed in warfare but they are based upon natural physical impulses.

R. K. Atkinson of the Russell Sage Foundation, who is serving as Secretary of the Athletic Badge Test Committee of the Playground and Recreation Association of America, described the features of the tests, showing how they too are based on natural impulses and stressed the value of one feature of these tests which is different from almost all others, that is, the choice of optional events which the tests afford. This choice has the value of giving variety in the program and of making the tests practical for localities with different equipment resources. The great advantage of the tests is their practicability for use in almost any type of community of any size in any part of the country without a specially trained personnel. He told of the effort which had been made to promote the use of the Badge Test in Illinois, which demonstrated two things: one, if physical efficiency tests are to have the development they should have, it is necessary for progressive salesmanship to be back of their promotion; two, that physical efficiency tests have great value in stimulating the desire for adequate physical training facilities in schools which have little or no physical training work.

A whole flock of birds seem to have been killed by the stone hurled in Butler County, Ohio, by Freda Spring, the rural secretary of the Red Cross, according to a report in *The Drama*. Miss Spring, finding local response to her efforts to introduce self-respecting amateur dramatics, had the happy thought of bringing to the county fair the little companies which sprang up in various communities throughout the county. With the help of the fair board and of neighboring merchants, a circus tent was provided and simply equipped. There, the first season, five local companies gave their plays in turn to enthusiastic audiences from the whole countryside. Thus a highly desirable substitute is provided for the tawdry entertainment often associated with county fairs, the public is given a wholesome and fascinating bit of recreation, and the small town and open country find a vehicle for self-expression in the neighborly fashion.

—From *The Survey*, October 15, 1923

Game Demonstration*

"It is important to believe in games and the values that they teach. Games are without doubt the best aid in life in keeping young and companionable. It is better to break one's neck playing games than to grow old not knowing how," was the statement of Ernst Hermann, Superintendent of Playgrounds, West Newton, Massachusetts, in introducing a series of game demonstrations at the Recreation Congress. Mr. Hermann and Harry P. Clarke, Physical Director of Schools at Winnetka, Illinois, demonstrated games and told of some of the principles involved.

Some of the games demonstrated were old games which had been adapted. Practically all of them were active games for large groups or teams. Among them were the following:

1. Tag games to develop daring—such as Cross Tag and Couple Tag
2. Telegraph—to develop alertness
3. Variation of *Snatch the Handkerchief* and a game played with pails and bean bags to develop judgment
4. Relay Snatch Dash—to develop self-government
5. Basket-filling race—with bean bags serving as apples and endmen as garden gate
6. Five Hundred with bean bags. Target made of three consecutive circles for scoring—50, 75 and 100
7. Rope Quoit Tossing Relay—to develop motor activity, 50 points given winner

Among other games demonstrated were *Ocean Wave* or *Whirlwind*, two variations of *Chair Circle Relay*, *Roman Soldiers*, *The Farmer in the Dell*, *Jump Shot*, *Arch Ball Relay*, *Circle Dodge Ball*, with variations, *Couple Relay Race*, *Beanbag Relay*, *Three Deep*, *Slug Ball*, *Stoop Tag*, *Immunity*, *Rope Relay*, *Stride and Straddle Relay*, and *Double Skip Away*.

An interesting demonstration of *Fist Ball* was given by a group of high school boys. The game was played in a court 40x40 feet.

*Report of Game demonstrations and Play Institute held at Recreation Congress, Springfield, Illinois, October 9, 11, and 12, 1923

"Play is always best when multiplied by the work dimension. Most work is only one dimension."—*Joseph Lee*.

French Sportsmanship*

The unpleasant exhibition of resentment over the American football victory in Paris last month should in all fairness be compared with another incident two months earlier which received some notice in our press at the time, and is thus reported in the May issue of the *Empire Review*:

On a Sunday in March of the present year a German cyclist, Wittig, came to Paris to take part in a great international cycle race. He was the first German to take part in any sporting event in France since the war. On the same day a French cyclist was racing in Berlin.

Wittig did not win his race in Paris. He was third; but he received a great ovation from the Parisian crowd for a plucky fight. After the race he was presented by his French hosts with a wreath of flowers; and this wreath he laid on the memorial erected to the French cyclists who fell fighting against Germany in the Great War. His action provoked, as it was bound to do, the liveliest comment in the French press. In answer to the journalists who interviewed him, Wittig said that he had laid the wreath on the memorial to the fallen cyclists of France, partly because he was a pacifist who hated all bloodshed and believed in the friendship of democratic peoples, partly because the cyclists to whom the memorial was erected were men whom he had known and respected, and against whom he had raced in the happy days before the war. He added that he was certain that his action would be approved by the vast masses of his fellow countrymen.

These interviews, to anyone who knows the Paris press, were remarkable enough. But they led to something still more remarkable. For they were followed by articles by leading sporting writers, demanding that the authorities in control of the Olympic Games should invite Germany to take part in the Games in Paris this year, and urging that "in sport, as in art, there is no country."

This incident of Wittig's race and its sequel have more than the passing interest of a picturesque continental cycle-meeting. For they constituted what is undoubtedly the first genuine act of spontaneous reconciliation between the common people of France and Germany since 1914.

*From *The Living Age*, June 7th, 1924

To be nation right, and state right, we must first be community right.

—Marion, Pennsylvania, Civic Association.

Olympic Results

The Olympic Games of 1924 brought tremendous prestige to the United States. Ninety-eight of the 361 Olympic medals awarded went to the United States—nearly one-third of the total, including forty-five for first places, twenty-six for second places and twenty-seven for third places. Finland, with thirty-seven firsts; France, with thirty-six; and Great Britain, with thirty-one, were next on the list of the twenty-seven nations which received prizes. The United States carried off eight championships—track and field, rowing, swimming, tennis, boxing, catch-as-catch-can wrestling, target shooting and rugby. Colonel Robert M. Thompson, president of the American Olympic Committee, and Gustavus T. Kirby, treasurer, who have been outstanding promoters of American participation, may well survey the results with satisfaction.

Americans everywhere are naturally proud and gratified at the splendid showing made by America—and particularly at the courtesy and good sportsmanship manifested by American representatives. The only small fly in the ointment is the question as to *how* representative the American contestants were. It is a little soon to forget draft figures. The Olympic laurel wearers are examples of the possible, rather than the typical. For the future of our country, the aim is many, many playing the game, deriving their satisfaction from the activity rather than the winning.

Industry and Leisure Time

(Continued from page 334)

they know that man lives not by bread alone; they want roses, too. And it is this insistence of the workers themselves upon adequate leisure, upon redress for injustice, upon deliverance from the depressing conditions within the shop; it is to this spirit within the workers themselves that you as a body are going to have to depend in the future for gaining more leisure and in the more rational use of what they have. It all makes towards a larger, richer, happier human life.

HOPE FOR THE WORLD IN RECREATION

I cannot close without giving you one more word. I have large concern as to what our civilization all comes to. What does it amount to? What if we do have happy homes, what if we do

have domestic tranquility as a nation, what if we do have fine educational opportunities, what does it amount to, all this harmonizing of industrial and domestic differences, if every once in a while a great and terrible power rises up as a result of which our young men are cut down in hundred thousand lots? We are so apt to take ourselves so seriously in our little circles, either industrial or recreation, forgetting that the most serious question our race has to face is the problem of our international relationships, and how to organize this unorganized pugnacity. It is because you as a group who are looking forward to the rightful use of leisure, are bringing back physical balance, mental poise, spiritual enrichment, that some of us hope the human race will have sense enough, courage enough, spiritual fellowship enough, to be able to work out a system of international co-operation that will do away with this fearful destruction that has come periodically upon the human race.

Recreation and Industry

(Continued from page 336)

Perkins Gilman, which is the strongest appeal for play from the child that ever came to my attention. It must appeal forcibly to all. It shows us that we will pay.

TO THE WISE—A BARGAIN

By Charlotte Perkins Gilman

Said the Slumchild to the wise—
To the people of place and power
Who govern and guide the hour,
To the people who write and teach,
Ruling our thought and speech,
And all the Captains and Kings
Who command the making of things:
"Give me the good you know,
That I, the child, may grow!
Light for the whole day long,
Food that is pure and strong,
Housing and clothing fair,
Clean water and clean air,
Teaching from day to day,
And room—for a child to play!"
Then the Wise made answer cold:
"These things are not given, but sold.
They shall be yours today,
If you can pay."

"Pay!" said the child. "Pay you?
What can I do?
Only in years' slow length
Shall I have strength.
I have not power nor skill,
Wisdom nor wit nor will—
What service weak and wild
Can you ask of a little child?"
But the Wise made answer cold:
"Goods must be bought and sold:
You shall have nothing here
Without paying—paying dear!"
And the rulers turned away,
But the child cried on them: "Stay!
Wait, I will pay!"

"For the foulness where I live,
Filth in return I give.
For the greed that withholds my right,
Greed that shall shake your might.
For the sins I live in and learn,
Plentiful sin I return.
For my lack in home and school,
Ignorance comes to rule,
From where I sicken and die,
Disease in your homes shall lie.
My all uncounted death
Shall choke your children's breath.
Degenerate—crippled—base,
I degrade the human race;
And the children you have made—
These shall make you afraid.
I ask no more. I take
The terms you make;
And steadily, day by day,
I will pay!"

Work is the salvation of man.
The joy of work is Production.
The power of production is Liberty.
The flower of production is Art and Beauty.
The production of art is Creation.
The creation of art leads to Religion.
If we are to succeed as a nation
We must bring to the heart of every individual
Joy in the creative forces of Nature and of Art,
And make Beauty the attribute of every Home.
This is the meaning of the "pursuit of Happiness"
Referred to in the Declaration of Independence.
This is making a religion of our Liberties.

HENRY K. BUSH-BROWN

Winston-Salem's Memorial Auditorium

Situated on a high knoll where it stands out with vivid clearness, is the Richard J. Reynolds Memorial Auditorium of Winston-Salem, North Carolina, presented to the city by Mrs. J. Edward Johnston, formerly Mrs. Richard Reynolds. The main entrance is a masterpiece in architecture, of the Roman Corinthian order. Six large Indiana limestone columns 42 inches in diameter and 39 feet high, surmounted by beautifully carved Corinthian caps, support the roof of the portico. The exterior is of Colonial brick, with Indiana limestone cornices and other trimmings, covering an area of 110 by 172 feet. The height of the main walls is 50 feet.

From the front portico one enters a spacious lobby 30 by 60 feet. From each end of the lobby broad stairways with ornamental metal iron railings lead to a large lounge which forms a splendid social center for the building. From this lobby are the entrances to the balcony.

By the main stairways in the forward wings of the building are located the retiring and smoking rooms and lavatories, there being three tiers of these rooms, one group for the ground floor and one for each balcony level. In entering the main auditorium from the lobby one comes to a foyer or promenade 12 feet wide across the entire width of the building and down each side, affording a promenade 230 feet long completely around three sides of the lower floor seating. This is divided from the main auditorium by fluted Roman Doric pilasters and railings, affording standing room in the rear and large additional seating capacity on the sides when needed. The main auditorium on the ground floor is 76 feet wide and 70 feet deep and is equipped with over a thousand comfortable chairs.

A balcony extends the full width of the building, which is 102 feet inside the walls and 75 feet deep. Connected with this main balcony are small balconies on each side over the promenade. The seating capacity is 1087, giving a total seating capacity of 2117 chairs.

The stage is one of the main features of the building. The proscenium opening is 27 feet high and 39 feet wide. The stage proper is 36 feet deep and 67 feet wide. Stage scenery for almost any occasion is included with the building and the arrangements are so complete that the most elaborately staged opera can be given.

To provide for the outstanding program of musical instruction being carried on in the city schools, a one-story wing has been erected by the city on one side of the auditorium in which is located a band and orchestra room 37 feet wide and 43 feet long. In addition there are two music practice rooms, a director's room and a music class and choral room 22 feet by 37 feet.

On May 8 the Auditorium was dedicated with appropriate ceremonies. The series of Music Week concerts which followed was notable and the vast auditorium was over-crowded for every event. Winston-Salem has a chorus similar to that of Bethlehem, Pa., and the superb singing of this chorus combined with the other features made the program noteworthy.

Note.—Since this article was written word has reached the Association of the sudden death of Mrs. J. Edward Johnston.

For the Crippled Children of Cincinnati

The Cincinnati Rotary Club has for the past four years provided a summer camp for crippled children. The camp is located in an ideal spot with beautiful trees, a lake and attractive rural surroundings. Screened cottages provide shelter and a place for rest. Swimming is the supreme activity. It is surprising how some of the children with the worst deformities can learn to swim in spite of painful braces.

The Rotary Club is working on the principle that crippled children need to live a normal life and do the things that other children do. They believe that too much emphasis is placed on the things which the crippled cannot or must not do. At the end of the summer many benefits are evidenced—increased weight and improved health are visible on every hand, but best of all, there is the determination on the part of the children that they will live happy, normal and useful lives in spite of their handicaps.

"According to examinations made by school medical inspectors of New York State during 1922-1923," states the *May Clip Sheet* of the Bureau of Education, "47% of the children living in cities, 48-9/10% of those living in villages and only 27-4/10% of those in rural districts are physically normal."

The Parent-Teachers' Association and Recreation

In April the New York State Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teachers' Association sent to its affiliated groups a questionnaire asking about their activities along recreation lines. The following summary of the reports received appears in the New York Parent-Teachers' Bulletin for June:

- 72 answered questions
- 15 reported recreation in their towns carried on by municipal authorities
- 2 promoted skating
- 4 helped finance gymnasium work
- 10 sponsored Girl Scouts
- 5 sponsored Boy Scouts
- 12 conducted community dances
- 13 conducted community sings
- 7 interested themselves in community dramatics
- 2 bought playgrounds
- 5 helped buy playgrounds
- 12 helped procure equipment for playgrounds
- 4 helped supervise playgrounds
- 4 helped promote baseball by buying ground or bats and balls
- 4 helped promote tennis
- 1 helped promote swimming
- 1 helped promote quoit playing
- 1 carried on the handwork on a playground
- 2 made band concerts possible in their towns
- 13 interested themselves in the better movie movement
- 4 purchased pianos for schools
- 2 bought moving picture machines
- 1 paid half salary of playground director
- 2 gave parties for children
- 4 gave picnics for children
- 1 made contributions to National Playground Association
- 1 made contribution to local recreation commission.

Another activity of the New York State Congress has been the conducting of an essay contest among school children, the subject of the essay being *Why We Need Playgrounds*.

The following letter was sent Mrs. Frederick M. Hosmer, State President, by the winner of the prize:

"A short time ago I received a letter from Mrs. Lucia L. Knowles saying that I had been awarded the prize for my essay on *Why We Need Play-*

grounds. A day or two ago I received your nice letter containing the check for ten dollars and thank you very much for both.

"I will start a bank account to help me in my school work. I expect to enter high school next year. I will always be greatly interested in recreation and think that kind of work would be very interesting and helpful."

A New Vacation Camp for Girls

By

BEATRICE S. MOSES

Lexington, Kentucky

Vacation camps for girls in the Blue Grass region of Kentucky have been augmented by the gift to the Girls' Friendly Society of Holiday House by the Rev. Alexander Patterson, known throughout eastern Kentucky as "The Apostle of the Mountains." This summer a vacation camp which will be opened in August will serve as a social center for the neighborhood.

The camp, consisting of a log house two stories high and twenty-one acres of ground, represents years of self-sacrifice and service on the part of Dr. Patterson, who in twenty-five years of missionary work in the mountains walked thousands of miles to save the transportation charges in order to buy the farm and build the house.

The logs and lumber used in the construction of the structure were transported with difficulty to the site in Lee County where Dr. Patterson with his own hands built Holiday House. The camp is located ideally for a combined camp and recreation center for which it is to be used, and consists of two stories, log built, with massive stone fireplaces in the large living room, a stairway leading up to the sleeping porches and rustic verandas surrounding the house.

There will be a resident worker to take charge of the community center features and an extension department co-operating with the various extension departments of the University of Kentucky along civic, recreation and other lines. The opening of the Patterson Friendly Farm, as it will also be known, will bring into the lives of the people of the mountains a glimpse of that open doorway which spells happiness.

The Problem Column

"One of the problems that I would like to see discussed is that of the advisory recreation council," writes C. E. Brewer, Recreation Commissioner of Detroit. "In a system created by charter or ordinance, such an advisory council would be without legal powers. Who would serve on this council and what is the tenure of office? A recreation superintendent would want the biggest people in his community on this board. Big people are usually busy and it is very difficult to get them to serve on a board which is volunteer and without legal powers. A recreation superintendent would not want to bother his board with administrative details and where you get the fullest municipal support from the Council and other department heads, the function of such an advisory council would be vague and to a certain extent unnecessary, yet there is that possibility of a political change in the administration at each election."

In reply to this Mr. Richard J. Schmoyer, Supervisor of Recreation at Allentown, Pa., writes:

"I admit that the Recreation Council, which is an advisory one when functioning, has no legal powers. There is no reason why the council should have legal powers because such powers are vested in our Recreation Commission which has been duly organized, subject to the Ordinance of our City and patterned after Law 322, State Legislature, 1919. The various civic, fraternal, religious and other organizations may send representatives to this council and each institution, the Young Men's Christian Association, Young Women's Christian Association, Federation of Churches, Catholic Churches, Catholic Societies, Boy Scout Council, Girl Scout Council, Hebrew Associations, Athletic Associations, Community Centers, Chamber of Commerce may each send three representatives who become members of the Council. These representatives of the Council are selected by popular acclamation and through other methods by the institutions themselves and not by the Mayor of the City or by the legally authorized Recreation Commission or any other extraneous body. The tenure of office is one year from January 1 to January 1—and at the end of each fiscal year the Superintendent of Recreation consults his mailing list of the Recreation Council and suggests to the various bodies having representatives in the Council that they either reappoint the present members of the Council or select three other individuals, men or women.

"It seems to us that it is not so vitally necessary to have the most influential people in the community serve on this Council. But why not have these influential people send their lieutenants, as after all the leading men of a community have their assistants to carry out their plans? The moral influence of community leaders is quite often more lasting and far-reaching than their membership in any particular body, such as this, a recreation council. The most forceful men in the community will swear allegiance to these members provided the Council is productive of good works and can carry out its program. After all, the Council, through its various committees, gives the street level man responsibilities and opportunities for self expression. Quite often he is just as important indirectly as the man recognized as the community leader.

"The function of a recreation council is not 'necessarily vague and to a certain extent unnecessary because the fullest municipal support is maintained from the council or other department heads,' because the council might plan a program which will not be executed in five years, such as the lay-out of parkways, driveways, purchase of additional land for golf courses and other recreation activities. The council is thus in condition to suggest remedies for immediate needs, is an agency for propaganda and also a means of educating the people of the community in thinking, dreaming and if necessary eating recreation. Such a council might even be called a Committee of One Hundred which has in mind a program that cannot at present be carried out because of lack of funds but is thinking at least ten years ahead, and it will use every opportunity in the various bodies and institutions of which it is composed to educate its constituency."

Mr. John Bradford, of the Playground and Recreation Association of America, also believes in the Recreation Council:

"Recreation developments are comparatively new but are of vital importance to right civic and citizenship development. From the standpoint of health and conduct they are of wider interest to the community than is usual with department work; because of the relation to child life they have a strong emotional appeal. Related to industrial efficiency they touch the producing power of a community and as a spiritual force they have a powerful effect on character building.

"For all of these reasons the administration of community-wide recreation is of fundamental importance and the question naturally arises, 'How can the recreation commission—in so many cities the body administering recreation and in so many instances subject to the vicissitudes of officially appointed groups be strengthened and helped in its work?'"

"Many private agencies are keenly interested in better community life and in the development of cultural activities for all the people. In some way their programs are touching the leisure time field. They are eager to pool their resources for the common good. They understand the difficulties with which politically appointed groups often have to contend. Is it beyond reason to hope for some aid in the solution of the problem in the organization of the recreation council made up of representatives from these private agencies who will stand back of the municipal department?"

"The work of such a council is anything but vague inasmuch as in the average community life expenditures of money will be necessary for the purchase of land, the building of a new type of school building, assistance to the church and other agencies in their programs and in the finding and training of volunteer leadership for an extensive program which can never be entirely carried by official and employed workers. Such expenditures and activities need the sanction of representative public sentiment and the recreation council has a large field in arousing such sentiment.

"The leisure time field offers a challenge to service which appeals to the imagination of socially minded people and their enlistment in such a council and their active participation in its work depends only upon the vision and leadership ability of the worker in charge.

"The idea of such a council is not new. Every political party and most religious and secular organizations have such advisors who are not members of the various official groups but are the power behind them. Even presidents have their own official advisors without authority, as did kings before kings went out of style.

"This type of service peculiarly appeals to strong leaders in every community. The development of such councils are worth a trial. They should be organized in line with the interest of those chosen and the term of service will in some cases be short, dependent on the type of service to be rendered, such as activities in connection with bond issues, pageants, Music Weeks and similar events."

At the Conferences

Recreation and community organization were the chief topics at a series of district conferences held by the American Legion, Department of Oregon, at Baker, Pendleton, Bend, Grant's Pass, Marshfield, Roseburg, Albany and Portland. John C. Henderson, Supervisor of Recreation for the Portland Park Bureau, and chairman of the recreation committee of the Oregon American Legion, spoke at each conference, and conferred with delegates on particular problems.

FOR THE LEISURE TIME OF THE WORKERS OF EUROPE

At its meeting in Geneva in June, 1924, the International Labor Bureau, which is financially maintained by the League of Nations but separate from it, considered for the first time the question of *Workers' Leisure*. Each Government sends two official representatives to the Conference and in addition one representative from Labor and one from Manufacturers.

A preliminary questionnaire was sent to all the participating Governments, preparatory to the making up of the program.

HOW TO SECURE LEISURE, THE USE OF LEISURE AND COMMUNITY RELATIONSHIPS

The Conference is, of course, concerned with how to secure leisure—the eight-hour day, transportation to and from work, housing and similar problems—as well as with the actual use of leisure. It should be very significant in stimulating interest in the leisure time movement in European countries and in bringing about some definite action. A start has already been made in Belgium, particularly in Brussels, where there are highly developed committees of workers called Regional Control Provincial Committees on Workers' Leisure. Other developments must inevitably follow as a result of the Conference. Herbert May, of New York City, represented the Playground and Recreation Association of America at this great meeting.

CONNECTICUT CONFERENCE OF SOCIAL WORK

The Connecticut State Conference of Social Work is one of the state-wide social work groups which conducts a Community Life Section as a part of its program. And this Section, under the leadership of Miss Dorothy Heroy, Chairman of

the Board of Public Recreation, Stamford, Connecticut, has set a high standard!

At the meeting of the Section held at Bridgeport on May 6 the following topics were presented: *Practical Programs for Our Prospective Citizens* by Mrs. Eva W. White, Secretary of Boston Community Service; *Athletics for Girls* by Miss Vivian Collins, Department of Physical Education, Connecticut State Board of Education; and *Why We Want Playgrounds* by Dr. L. R. Burnett, Superintendent of Recreation, Paterson, New Jersey.

Social workers, even the most serious of them can play!

This was demonstrated at the afternoon session of the Section which was devoted to community singing led by Kenneth Clark, formerly of the Bureau of Community Music of the Playground and Recreation Association of America, and to folk dancing and folk games under the leadership of Elizabeth Burchenal. More than 200 of the delegates took part with great enthusiasm in the games.

MUSIC AND SOCIAL WORK

At the Annual Conference of the California Social Agencies held at Long Beach, May 25-29, a resolution was presented before the departmental session on recreation by Alexander Stewart, Executive Director of the Pacific Music and Art Association of Southern California, requesting that the Conference give recognition to music as an important medium in social work. The resolution, which was unanimously adopted by the department on recreation and presented to the Resolutions Committee, is as follows:

Recognizing that music is becoming more and more a universal mode of appeal in social work, and that it has its place in all phases of reform and sociological problems, as well as being a sustaining factor of value in various kinds of community movements, acting as a medium of social contact between different classes and groups.

Be It Resolved, That the undersigned attendants upon the Annual Conference of the Social Agencies of Southern California, hereby request that consideration be given by the officers of said conference to our suggestion that a department of music, as related to social work, be created, and that one or more departmental sessions of the next annual conference be devoted to a discussion of problems having direct relation to this subject.

Signed: J. B. NASH, Recreation Director, Oakland

N. RICCIARDI, State Director of Vocational Education

ROY W. WINTON, District Representative Playground and Recreation Association of America

E. L. SHIRRELL, United States Veterans' Bureau

ALPHA WOOD ANDERSON, Music Director, Parttime High School, Los Angeles

J. H. RAINWATER, Secretary, Community Chest of Santa Clara County

SARA C. CATCHSHAW, Superintendent Playgrounds and Community Service, Long Beach

ALEXANDER STEWART, Executive Director, Civic Music and Art Association of Southern California

On June 27th and 28th a conference of playground workers from a number of New England cities was held at Lynn, Massachusetts, under the auspices of the Playground and Recreation Association of America. One hundred and thirty-five registered from over forty cities. The hospitality of the Lynn Playground Commissioners and the helpful cooperation of other city officials made possible the success of the conference.

Very practical problems were discussed by this group of practical workers. *The Playground Leader and His Responsibility to the City; The Playground Program; How the Playground Can Teach Safety; Age to a Playground Worker; The Value of Playground Handwork; Storytelling and Story Dramatization; Music on the Playgrounds; The Playground Health Program; The Use of Volunteers on the Playground; Playground Publicity; Kite Making; Evening Play for Adults; Athletic and Swimming Meets and Special Days on the Playground*, were among the subjects discussed.

A demonstration of handcraft by a representative of Dennison Company added greatly to the interest of the program.

At the Sixteenth National Conference on City Planning, held at Los Angeles, California, April 7-10, 1924, John R. Prince, Engineer, City Planning, Los Angeles, urged the compulsory filing of real estate plats. "Most of our States now

exercise some control over the filing of subdivisions. Many laws have been passed which to a certain extent control the laying out of land, but none are wholly adequate or give sufficient authority to the governing bodies to exercise that degree of control which is essential to the future welfare of our communities." Los Angeles has for some time refused to lay water mains in undedicated streets. Mr. Prince cited cases from court records where his position had been upheld. "His right to hold his land in its integrity as guaranteed by the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States is unquestioned and any taking thereof for public uses must be by due process of law, but I submit if a plat or subdivision of land is made for the purposes of sale under a general State law and streets or land for other public uses are shown thereon and offered for dedication, it is not unreasonable for the governing body of the city or county to require that streets shall conform to the general plan and shall be of such widths as best serve the community for its present and future needs." Mr. Prince includes the provision of suitable areas for school, park and playground purposes as essential in platting.

This attitude goes a step further than the recommendation of William E. Harmon, who has long urged ten per cent. of all plattings for playground purposes, but has not urged that filing of plats be made obligatory.

Leaders in Recreation*

STAMFORD, CONN., SHOWS WHAT CAN BE DONE
BY COMMUNITY EFFORT

Institutes for the training of leaders are increasing in number and influence as their value is recognized as a means of developing leadership and of enlarging the circle of volunteers who are helping to make community-wide recreation possible. Recreation executives, particularly in small communities, sometimes hesitate to attempt institutes because they do not have a staff of workers to share with them the responsibility of the lectures and demonstrations, and the task appears too great an undertaking. If, however, all community agencies are drawn into the plan from the beginning and it is made sufficiently broad in its scope to reach people of varied interests, the task can be greatly simplified, according to the Playground

and Recreation Association of America, maintaining Community Service, whose headquarters are at 315 Fourth Avenue.

This was the experience in Stamford, Conn., a city of 25,000 people which held its first training course in February and March, 1923, a report on which has just been published by the Association. The institute was worked out along the following lines: The project was promoted by community centers, but the responsibility was shared by other community agencies such as the Young Men's Christian Association, Boy Scouts, the schools, the library and similar groups who furnished speakers and leaders for the demonstration and helped in securing members for the institute. The purpose was to offer training to any one who was acting, or who was prepared to act as recreational leader in school, club, church or general community work. There was a very general response to the invitation and the institute was attended by Scout captains, club leaders and church workers, whose attendance and interest were maintained to the end.

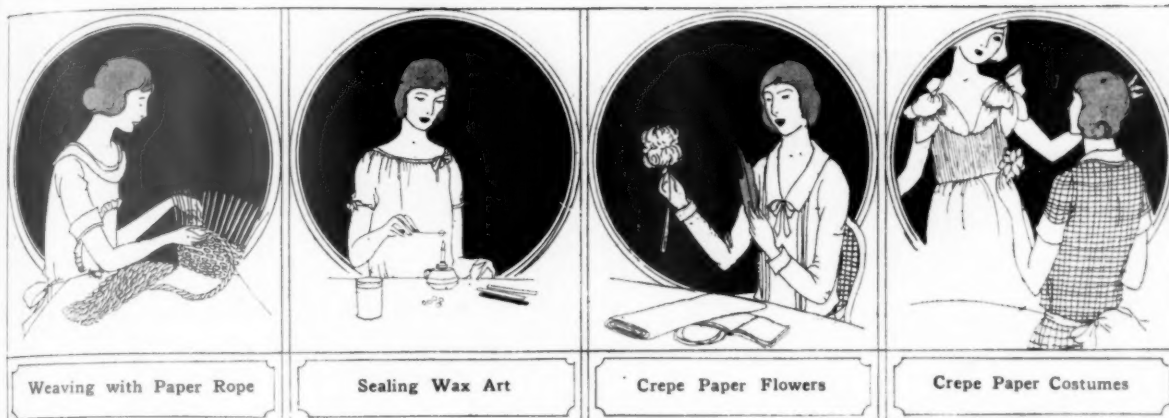
The success of the institute and the good spirit created are attributed in the main to two facts: First, the community itself provided the speakers with the exception of two specialists who came from out of town; second, from the beginning the class was required to take part in the activities.

The sessions, consisting of talks, demonstrations and practice work by the class were held once a week from 7:30 to 9:30 p. m. over a six weeks' period. Each meeting began with brief discussions of the games to be played and the rules were followed by active participation on the part of the class. As soon as the game or dance had been practiced sufficiently to impress itself on the memory of those participating, mimeographed material giving detailed instructions was distributed. Then followed a period devoted to theory.

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The following subjects were covered: Theory, essentials of personal hygiene, ideals and aims of the play movements, problems of leadership, clubs, dramatics and music, story-telling, parties, social groups, required reading, bibliography. Practice: marching tactics, recreational dancing, games, active and quiet, adapted to both sexes and

*From the *New York Times*, February 1, 1924.



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Magazines and Pamphlets Recently Received

Containing Articles of Interest to Recreation Workers and Officials

MAGAZINES

Parks and Recreation—May-June, 1924

The President's Conference

Achievements of the great national recreation meeting at Washington

Recreation Objectives—Forest Service Plans for Public's Pleasure By Fred W. Cleator

An article telling how the Forest Service has found it necessary to set aside recreational areas in the forests and national parks

Recreation in Rural Communities By J. R. Batchelor

The great need for recreation in rural districts and a number of practical suggestions given for meeting the need

Problems of the Recreation Executive—Harnessing Competition

Bicycle Stunt Meet By Leo M. Lyons

A discussion of the city-wide bicycle stunt meet held on the playgrounds of Rockford, Illinois

The Grab Bag

A baseball field day, junior olympics and a playground Mardi Gras are discussed for the benefit of the recreation director.

American Physical Education Review—June, 1924

This issue contains the proceedings of the 31st Annual Convention of the American Physical Education Association held at Kansas City in April, 1924. The following papers are included:

Interest and Effort in Physical Education By Jesse F. Williams

A Basis for the Program in Health and Physical Education for Rural Schools By Allen G. Ireland

Athletics in the School Program By Henry S. Curtis

The Relation of the Plant Recreation Department to the Community By A. R. Wellington

Mind and Body—June, 1924

More Teaching of Swimming By Lena Hoernig

A discussion of the value of the systematic teaching of swimming rather than the haphazard method by which most people learn

Athletics for Women By Dr. E. H. Arnold

A discussion of the physique of woman and the effect of athletics upon her development and functions

Objectives and Compromises, Past, Present and Future By Carl L. Schrader

Some milestones and millstones in the more recent history of physical education

International Labor Review—June, 1924 Allen and Unwin, London, England

This issue of the International Labor Review contains a number of exceedingly interesting articles on the use of the leisure of working men in Sweden, Belgium, Czecho-Slovakia, England and the United States.

The Rotarian—July, 1924

Boys' Week—A New Chapter in Civics By Roger H. Motten

The developments of the past few years in the Boys' Week movement. The experience of several cities in conducting Boys' Week are described.



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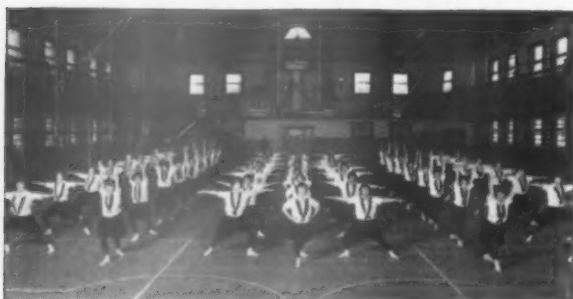
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Kansas Municipalities—July, 1924

Street Shower Baths By Harvey Walker

An article telling how many cities are conducting street shower baths. The types of baths used in Baltimore, Kansas City and Stamford, Connecticut, are described.

The Educational Screen—May, 1924

Film Recommendations by the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations By Mrs. Charles E. Merriam

An article urging the members of Parent-Teacher Associations to work for better films

Physical Education—June, 1924

Proceedings of the 18th Annual Meeting of the Physical Directors Society of the Y. M. C. A. of North America

Of special interest are:

Measurements in Efficiency By Dr. J. H. McCurdy
The Report on Life-Saving and Aquatics

Child Welfare Notes—May, 1924

Published by Kindergarten Mothers' Club of Maxwell Training School for Teachers

This issue is devoted to recreation and contains a number of articles by Dr. Eugene Gibney and others.

Child Health Magazine—July, 1924

City Gardening for Health By Hatty L. Sorden

An article telling of the successful results of the Avenue A gardens of New York City conducted by the National Plant, Fruit and Flower Guild

PAMPHLETS

24th Annual Report of the Commissioners of the Palisades Interstate Park

An attractive, illustrated record of the activities of the Palisades Interstate Park Commission for the year ending January 21, 1924

National Conference on Outdoor Recreation

Proceedings of the conference called by President Coolidge at Washington, May 22, 23 and 24, 1924. Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C.

Rules of Tennis and Tournament Regulations

Pamphlet published and distributed by the United States Lawn Tennis Association, New York City

The Physical Education Program of Columbus, Ohio

A pamphlet containing the outline for a course in physical education for elementary schools and for junior and senior high schools. It offers helpful suggestions for instruction, activities, games and field meets.

The Program of Sportsmanship Education By S. C. Staley

University of Illinois bulletin, Urbana, Illinois

Mental-Health Survey By Cornelia D. Hopkins

National Committee for Mental Hygiene, 370 Seventh Avenue, New York City

A statement of the purposes and work of the Illinois Institute of Juvenile Research in its study and treatment of behavior problems in children

Methods of Recreational Adjustment as a Form of Social Case Treatment By Claudia Wannamaker

Supervisor of Recreation, Institute for Juvenile Research, Chicago

The National Committee for Mental Hygiene, New York City

A discussion of the problem of selecting and utilizing available recreational resources as the most practical side of recreational therapy in behavior problems

Indiana's Sand Dunes—A National Opportunity By Orpheus Moyer Schantz

National Dunes Park Association, Gary, Indiana

A description of the beauties of the sand dunes of Indiana and Lake Michigan shore with their varied attractions and a plea for prompt action to preserve the dunes from commercial industries

Educational Games for Elementary and Junior High Schools, by John A. Martin

Novel suggestions for teaching arithmetic, spelling, sentence writing, geography and other subjects through

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Dept. 35, 5026 Greenwood Ave., Chicago, Illinois.

the use of games. Published by the Technical Composition Company, 66 Broadway, Cambridge, Mass.

Home Play, by W. C. Batchelor

A pamphlet on backyard playgrounds and activities issued by the Public Recreation Board of Fort Worth, Texas

Note: Single copies of this suggestive pamphlet may be secured from the Playground and Recreation Association of America through the courtesy of Mr. Batchelor. *The Sanitation of Bath Houses*, by William Paul Gerhard

This illustrated pamphlet discusses types of public baths, sanitary features of swimming pools and some engineering details of bath houses. Published by William T. Comstock Company, 23 Warren Street, New York City. Price \$.60

Book Reviews

CHILDREN FROM MANY LANDS. National Child Welfare Association, Inc., New York, and National Council for Prevention of War, Washington. Price \$1.00

The purpose of this attractive folio of decorative pictures with verse is to "create in the children of America a sympathy and love for the children of other nations." Each of the ten 11 in. x 14 in. sheets contains a beautifully colored picture showing the children of other lands—England, France, Holland, Germany, Spain, Italy, Russia, China and Japan—with a final picture dedicated to America. An appropriate verse accompanies each. Copies of the folio may be secured from either of the cooperating organizations.

PROGRESSIVE EDUCATION. Published by the Progressive Education Society, Washington, D. C. Price \$2.00 a year. Single copies \$.50

To serve as a quarterly review of the newer tendencies in education is the purpose of this new magazine which introduced itself to the public in the April number. Individual education is the chief topic of discussion in this the first issue, and there are exceedingly interesting articles on individual instruction in the San Francisco State Teachers' College, on the Winnetka system, the Dalton laboratory plan and the Leeds-Dalton plan. Methods of individual instruction and educational games are the subject of one significant article. A department on recent books gives much food for thought.

THE AMERICAN MUNICIPAL YEAR BOOK. Published by American City Magazine, 448 Fourth Avenue, New York City

The American City Bureau announces the publication of its Municipal Index for 1924 which will be of special interest to municipal and county officials, civic organizations, city planners, landscape architects and other specialists. In this volume of 408 pages, which is devoted to a discussion of governmental activities affecting the welfare and happiness of citizens in local communities, will be found information on such subjects as public health, parks, playgrounds, water supply, public utility ownership and similar topics. There is also a statement of the activities and services of 114 national organizations and 25 government bureaus serving the municipality.

SAFETY FIRST FOR SCHOOL AND HOME, by Harriet E. Beard. Published by the Macmillan Company, New York

This practical book in discussing methods of safety education in the home and in the school urges as a fundamental safeguard that recreation facilities and leadership be provided. "Recreation facilities," says the author, "represent the best investment of public or private funds that can be made. City governments, men's clubs and women's organizations can undertake no more profitable project nor patriotic service than that of providing playgrounds and playground equipment, street shower



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baths on hot, summer days, swimming pools and paid or volunteer leaders to supervise the children's play."

The section on Safety Education in the Schools has interesting suggestions to offer along the line of games, dramatizations, safety clubs and the correlation of safety instruction with the child's regular school studies.

Safety First for School and Home is an exceedingly practical and suggestive book for parents, teachers and all interested in child welfare.

CHILD HEALTH PROGRAM FOR PARENT-TEACHER ASSOCIATIONS AND WOMEN'S CLUBS, by Lucy Wood Collier. Health Education No. 5. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Education 1924. Government Printing Office, Washington. Price \$.05

So great has been the demand for the first issue of this pamphlet prepared for the Bureau of Education by the Child Health Organization of America that it has been revised and a new bibliography added. The pamphlet takes up methods of teaching health in the schools, with suggestions for practical work. It also discusses the importance of recreation and offers suggestions for the recreation and health of school teachers. School sanitation, good housekeeping in the schools, strategy and publicity in community health work, are the topics of a number of sections. A helpful bibliography completes the pamphlet.

HEALTH TRAINING IN SCHOOLS, by Theresa Dansdill. National Tuberculosis Association, 370 Seventh Avenue, New York City

"Health in the abstract or as a physical ideal can make no appeal to young persons; but as an aid to achieving undertakings in which they are vitally interested, it will take a firm hold of them."

With this motive in mind the National Tuberculosis Association has issued a book which in the hands of a resourceful teacher should greatly enrich a course in

health training. There are stories, poems and quotations, games, exercises, drills and projects of various kinds, as well as suggestions for safety, cleanliness, clothing, care of teeth, air and ventilation and similar subjects. The Modern Health Crusade as conducted by the National Tuberculosis Association is outlined in detail.

THE SANITATION OF BATH HOUSES, by William Paul Gerhard, C. E. Published by the William T. Comstock Company, 23 Warren Street, New York. Price \$.60

In this monograph—a reprint from *Architecture and Building*—Mr. Gerhard discusses types of public baths, the sanitary features of swimming pools, the water supply, the purification of swimming pool water and some engineering details of bath house installations. Twenty-eight illustrations are used in connection with the subject matter.

DENNISON INSTRUCTION BOOK, Dennison Manufacturing Company, Framingham, Mass. Price \$1.00

Handicraft enthusiasts—and their number is increasing daily—will be glad to know that the Dennison booklets on *How to Make Paper Costumes*, *How to Make Crepe Paper Flowers*, *Weaving with Paper Rope*, *Tables and Favors*, *Sealing Wax Art* and *How to Decorate Halls, Booths and Automobiles* have been attractively bound together in this book which contains a wealth of suggestions for creating beauty through handicraft. No playground worker who is developing handicraft on the playground can afford to be without this volume.

Recreation workers who are in or near New York, Chicago, Boston and San Francisco should avail themselves of the opportunity to visit the Headquarters stores located in these cities and see for themselves the many beautiful and simply made articles which lend themselves so readily to reproduction by children on the playgrounds and by adults at the recreation centers.

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THE CHILD: HIS NATURE AND HIS NEEDS Edited by M. V. O'Shea The Children's Foundation, Valparaiso, Indiana Price \$1.00

The Children's Foundation of Valparaiso, Indiana, made possible by a gift of Lewis E. Myers, was chartered by the State of Indiana, December, 1921. It has for its object a study of the child and the dissemination of knowledge promoting the well-being of children.

As its first task the Foundation undertook the appraising of present day knowledge relating to the nature, well-being and education of children. The results of the study have appeared in a volume of nearly 500 pages under the title *The Child: His Nature and His Needs*. The material presented has been prepared by well-known experts. Prof. O'Shea of the University of Wisconsin who served as editor of the book has also contributed a number of chapters. The subject matter is divided into three general headings: Present day knowledge of child nature; present day knowledge of child well-being; and present day knowledge of child education. Under each division are a number of chapters prepared by such experts as Bird T. Baldwin, Director Iowa Child Welfare Research Station; H. H. Goddard of Ohio State University; William R. P. Emerson of Tufts Medical College; William Healy, Director of Judge Baker Foundation, Boston; Arnold Gesell, Professor Child Hygiene, Yale Graduate School; and Honorable John J. Tigert, United States Commissioner of Education, and others.

The Foundation has made a splendid contribution not only in the preparation of the book and its contents but in making the volume available at so low a cost that it is within the reach of all practical workers.

A FIELD AND LABORATORY GUIDE IN PHYSICAL NATURE-STUDY By Elliot R. Downing Published by the University of Chicago Press, Chicago, Illinois

The purpose of this interesting book is to help the teacher who is trying to use in his work that scientific method and accumulated knowledge so important in modern life, and through it to serve the boys and girls who, by acquaintance with nature, will come to adjust themselves more intelligently to their environment and to use the forces of the universe more effectively. Information is presented in a vivid way on minerals and rocks, stars and our solar system. *Some Toys That Work by Air* and how to make them, forms a fascinating section of the book. There are, too, suggestions for making tops, slings and bows, magnetic and electric toys, phonographs and telephones and the hot air balloon. A discussion of the camera, telescope and magic lantern paves the way for giving the boys and girls information for experiments in light. A chapter on the home-made orchestra adds much interest to the book.

PHYSICAL TRAINING LESSONS By William A. Stecher Published by John Joseph McVey, Philadelphia, Pa. Price \$2.50

The classroom teacher will find in this book very helpful, concrete information on physical training programs for various grades composed of class marching, free exercises, games and dances, track and field meets, stunts and apparatus work and similar events. A number of song games with music are included. Particularly practical is the roster of games, dances, track and field events arranged by months and grades.

ATHLETICS FOR WOMEN By Dr. J. F. Rogers Department of the Interior, Bureau of Education, Washington, D. C. Price \$.05

In this pamphlet Dr. Rogers has outlined briefly the present situation in regard to athletics for women and the work of the Women's Division of the National Amateur Athletic Federation, together with some of the resolutions passed by the Division which incorporate, to a large degree, the policies for which the Division stands.

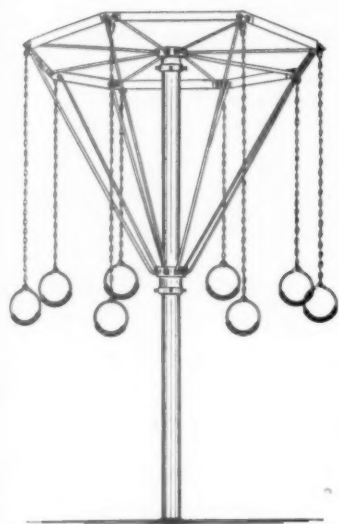
SAFETY MANUAL FOR PLAYGROUND AND CAMP INSTRUCTORS Prepared by the Springfield Safety Council, Springfield, Massachusetts

Springfield is taking concerted action to reduce to a minimum the number of accidents to children of the city. The fact that seven of the fourteen accidental deaths in Springfield in 1923 occurred during the two vacation months of July and August has focussed attention upon the playground as a preventive agency. With this in mind a number of junior organizations are being promoted—the A. B. C. (Always Be Careful) and the Junior Safety Patrol. Constitutions have been drawn up and plans outlined for organized service by the children of the playgrounds. The manual in which these instructions are issued also contains games, playlets, songs, poems and stories suitable for use in teaching safety in playgrounds or camps.

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC DANCE HALL COMMITTEE OF THE SAN FRANCISCO CENTER OF THE CALIFORNIA CIVIC LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS By Maria Lambin Published by the San Francisco Center of the California Civic League of Women Voters, Hotel St. Francis, San Francisco Price \$.25

A contribution toward the solution of the public dance hall problem of America is embodied in the *Report of the Public Dance Hall Committee of the San Francisco Center of the California League of Women Voters*. The report, recently published, reviews briefly but comprehensively the changes that have been brought about in the conduct of the San Francisco dance halls through the cooperation of the municipal authorities and the pub-

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lie-spirited women of the community—changes that are the more worthy of note in view of the particularly difficult problem San Francisco faced with its riotous and vicious Barbary Coast and beach resorts.

The report is divided into two parts, the first dealing in a general way with the many phases through which the dance has passed before reaching its present popularity as recreation and reaction from the monotony of industry; the second, taking up the definite methods used in San Francisco in meeting the tremendous social problem involved. The data, including psychological aspects, the value of dancing as recreation, its relationship to social evils are progressively dealt with and lead to the consideration of social control and the formulating of a comprehensive dance hall policy. The human aspects are handled with understanding and sympathy.

The report has been put into pamphlet form in the hope that the successful methods worked out in San Francisco may be of value to other cities faced with similar problems. Copies may be obtained by writing the Executive Secretary of the San Francisco Center, 1215 Hotel St. Francis, San Francisco, California.

A FRIEND AT COURT By Leon Stern and Elizabeth Stern Published by Macmillan Price \$2.00

Each chapter of this intensely human book tells the story of a misdirected life, describing it not as a "case," but as the study of a personality, and, often, of the underlying nobility of human character. Domestic tragedies, wayward girl cases and delinquent boy problems which come before the court are straightened out through the rare insight of Mary Ellen Wright, Probation Officer. These chronicles of life are so colorful that the book does not need love interest. The development of Mary Ellen's romance, however, serves to unify the stories.

In many of the stories, lack of wholesome recreation can be seen to have had its effects upon tangled lives.

Jimmy's career of theft began when he "hocked" his

uncle's shoes for funds to enjoy a day's outing with a chum.

A girl of fourteen ran away from home and joined a house of ill fame because her father would not allow her to entertain friends or go out with them, and because the woman who kept the house had shown her sympathy and taken an interest in her. The Judge said to this girl's father, "Every day I see a half dozen girls, more or less, who have gone out of their homes to have a good time because they can't have it at home. Your little girl wants fun and laughter."

To an indolent tailor who was making his little boy help him, the probation officer said, "He gets bad because he must work and cannot play."

HOME MUSIC AND HOME PLAY. Publication No. 6 Issued by Better Homes in America, Washington, D. C. Price \$.10

The suggestions which this pamphlet has to offer may well be adopted by every home in America. The booklet is inspirational in its emphasis on the value of play in the home and exceedingly practical in its definite suggestions regarding equipment, games and activities. A section on reference books on home play is also valuable.

MUSIC MANUAL FOR RURAL SCHOOLS. Educational Department, Victor Talking Machine Company, Camden, New Jersey

The Educational Department of the Victor Talking Machine Company has issued information and suggestions for the use of music in rural schools together with a full course of twenty lessons for each of the three years' work and sixty morning exercises. The book suggests the correlation of music with other arts and branches of study.

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Town

R. F. D..... State.....

example, songs about birds or flowers will bring home to the children certain phases of nature study not otherwise emphasized. The catalog points out the records which are best suited to make possible these correlations.

MORE STORY-WORSHIP PROGRAMS, by Rev. J. A. Stowell. Published by George H. Doran Company, New York City. Price \$1.75

The cordial reception given *Story-Worship Programs for the Church School Year* by Sunday School superintendents, teachers and pastors and the demand for more material of this kind have led to the publication of *More Story-Worship Programs*. The stories are arranged according to months, with a story for each Sunday of the month.

MODERN GYPSIES, by Mary Crehore Bedell. Published by Brentano's, New York City. Price \$2.50

A twelve thousand mile motor camping trip encircling the United States furnished the material for this re-

freshing, entertaining story. Mrs. Bedell and her husband, a college professor, who had a six months' vacation leave, started from New York in February of last year and completely encircled the United States by automobile.

Written in a delightful conversational style and filled with the enthusiasm of the lover of the out-of-doors, the author carries you along in such an intimate way you feel yourself one of the party. Her impressions are always interesting and her observations keen.

Reading *Modern Gypsies* makes you want to take to the open road—not only because it beckons you, but because you are better equipped because of the experiences related and the practical way they have been woven into the story.

MAGIC LANTERNS, by Louise Saunders. Charles Scribner's Sons, 598 Fifth Avenue, New York City. Price \$1.50

In *Magic Lanterns* will be found a delightful collection of one-act plays, three of which are suitable for groups of experienced girl players.

Figureheads—five characters. This is the story of the willful princess who refuses to obey the mandate of her people to marry the prince, but who accepts him willingly when he goes to her in the guise of a peasant.

Poor Maddelena—two scenes, three characters. Pierrot and Pierrette become discontented with their delightful world of fantasy and leave it to go out into the world in search of life and love and things that are real. In the second scene we find little Pierrette as an Italian peasant girl waiting for her sweetheart, Paolo—Pierrot—to come home. In this scene she learns how much unhappiness there is in the world of reality. The last scene shows Pierrot and Pierrette returning home well content to let mortals cry for the moon while they live in their land of fantasy secure in their possession of the moon.

King and Commoner—An outdoor play with eight characters and extras. The king sends his son to be reared in the forest, to prove his theory that the prince will grow to a larger mental stature if he has no knowledge of his great future. After eighteen years the queen mother goes to the forest to bring her son to the palace, but the good old peasant who for many years has cared for the prince and her own son is unable to tell them apart. Upon the boys themselves evolves the responsibility for proving which is heir to the throne. The most interesting feature of the play is the contest between Daniello, the physically fit youth, and Tomasso, who mentally seems better fitted to rule.

See Saw and Our Kind—two more sophisticated plays of interest to Little Theatre groups.

DOLLY AND HER DRESSES—The Betsey Bobbett Series. Published by the Knight Publishing Company, New York City. Price \$1.10

Here is a book which will delight the hearts of playground children and will prove of great assistance to the play-leader who is looking for simple handcraft designs and patterns.

Dolly and Her Dresses contains pictures of dolls, directions for cutting and making dolls, with the designs from which to work. Suggestions are given regarding material from which the dolls may be made and with which they may be stuffed. Nor are the clothes left to mere chance. There are patterns for dresses, rompers and bloomers. There are, too, five simple hats and a page of designs for ribbons for trimming, not to mention the patches to sew on the dresses.

And best of all, the book will not be beyond the reach of any child who wants it, for it may be purchased after June 1st, through the Woolworth Five and Ten Cent Stores, for 10c.

All kinds of dolls will be described in the booklets which are being prepared by the Knight Publishing Company—dolls made of crepe paper, of clothespins and ice cream spoons, crocheted dolls and lead pencil dolls. These booklets will be announced as they are ready for distribution.

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